

Home Computing WEEKLY

An Argus Specialist Publication

EVERY WEEK:
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reviews

No. 41
Dec 13-19, 1983

38p

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type in for:
Texas, ZX81,
Oric, Dragon,
Atari

PLUS: news,
U.S. scene,
letters,
software charts



Bible game out for Christmas

Just in time for Christmas, a clergyman has completed a Biblical adventure set in turbulent first-century Israel.

Jericho Road was written for the Spectrum by 44-year-old Peter Goodlad, pastor of Seven Kings United Free Church, near Ilford.

His Spectrum has been put to use both in church youth groups and during a Sunday service, running two of his earlier games.

One asks multiple choice questions about the parables and in the other, called The Lost Sheep, players have to round up the flock.

In Jericho Road, which costs £5.75 from Shards and runs on the 48K model, the player has to

Continued on page 5

Decision soon on "ITV micro"

ITV companies were meeting this week to decide their future policy on computer programmes — and on proposals from some of the companies that independent ITV should produce its own rival to the BBC micro.

Reports had claimed ITV had called in micro builder Transam to produce a £400 computer with its own version of BASIC, the new Zilog Z80B processor, 64K or 256K of memory, and RS232

Continued on page 5

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The Guardian

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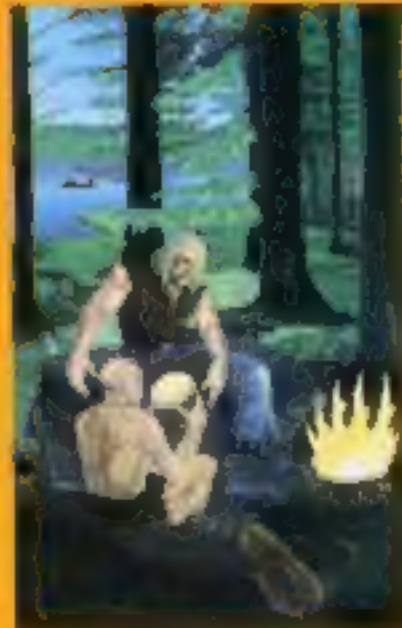
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87 Howard's Lane,
London SW15 6NU

Tansoft has brought out its Oriemon machine code monitor, which includes an assembler and disassembler. Other features are printer and cassette handling; trace; slow motion run; and breakpoints. The package comes with a 50-page user guide.
Price: £15

Tansoft, Units 1 and 2, Techno Park, Newmarket Road, Cambridge

Melbourne House has now taken over publishing rights to Abersoft Forth. Programs in Abersoft Forth are said to run 10-15 times faster than BASIC programs, without the need to learn machine code. Price: £14.95

Melbourne House, 224 Stanley Road, Teddington, Middx. TW11 8UR

Fidelity has moved into the home computer market with a 14 inch colour monitor which it says will work with virtually any computer or games machine. It will accept a range of inputs, including RGB, RGBY or composite video, plus audio, via a 21-pin scart-type socket. It costs £200.

Fidelity, Victoria Road, London NW10 6ND

Taxman from Mondatta isn't a business program — it's a game where you gather as much money as possible while avoiding the taxmen's clutches. Also out from Mondatta is Supercopter, which gives you a chance to save your country from destruction. Both games are for the Commodore 64 and cost £5.65.

Mondatta, 38 Cuddington Ave, Worcester Park Surrey KT4 7DB

From Pan, the people who brought you the 35mm Photographer's Handbook, comes The Personal Computer Handbook. Costing £5.95 in paperback and £9.95 hardback it has chapters on the elements of a microcomputer system, how your micro works, living with computers, the electronic home, the electronic office, and computers in the future. A glossary and buyer's guide (already slightly dated) is included.

Pan Books, Cavaye Place, London SW10 9PG

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Don't miss next week's great Christmas issue — lots of great programs to type in.

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To advertise your latest products! Ring Coleen or Barry on 01-437 1002 NOW!



You'll smile too when you play the three Spectrum games in this issue



Programs for children are reviewed on page 53



Let your Dragon work out your bills in advance — just type in the listing on page 13

EARLY WARNING: We're moving. We move into our new offices on December 20. The address: No. 1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB. Our phone number will then be: 01-437 0626.

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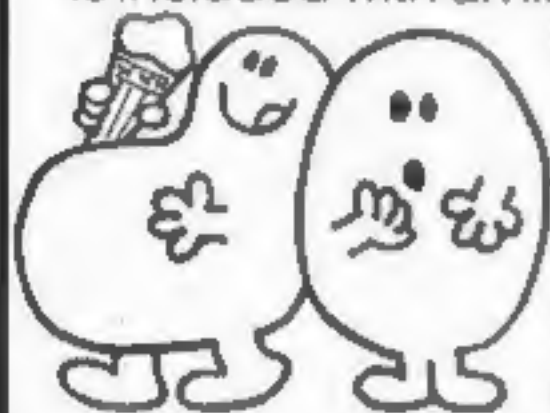
More than fun and games!

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by Primer Educational Software

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QUICK THINKING!

by Wigit Software

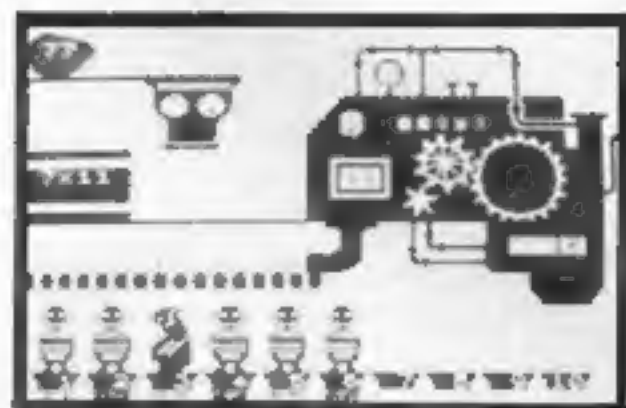
Two mind-stretching, space-age games to test mental arithmetic and nimble fingers.

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Robot Tables challenges the young player to make a series of perfect robots.

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for early learners, and more advanced children, to master an important and often neglected skill.



Available now on cassette for the Spectrum 48K and Commodore 64 (BBC B and Electron versions coming shortly). **£6.95**

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by Andromeda Software

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Bible game

From front page

survive the rigours of Roman occupation and religious persecution in southern Israel.

He has a special mission on behalf of a persecuted minority and has a part in decoding an ancient puzzle.

Mr Goodlad said: "I'm a great believer in modern technology in the church, but it must be appropriate. The computer is a tremendous tool, but you've got to use it and not be dominated by it."

How had his congregation reacted? He said: "I think they are a bit bemused by it, but they have been very supportive. After all, I've found another way of expanding my ministry."



The Rev. Peter Goodlad — believes in computers in the church

Mr Goodlad bought his Spectrum a year ago — with a lot of encouragement from his three daughters — and one of the first uses he found was for church records.

He said: "I started off thinking that was the way I was going to use it. But in order to be functional you've got to keep it up to date... and I got diverted to educational games. Maybe after Christmas I'll restore the records."

Daughters Alison, 17, Julie, 14, and 12-year-old Sally are delighted at their father's success.

Mr Goodlad said Alison had written some small programs and gave advice on Jericho Road.

But he said of his wife Jean: "She accepts it in the house but does not want to get involved — she's got enough to do."

Mr Goodlad plans to buy a full-sized printer with his royalties.

His future projects include a compendium of the best of the programs he has used in church work and further adventures based on the Bible.

He said: "There will be at least one sequel. I would love to create something out of the Book of Revelations. It has some incredible imagery and dramas."

Steve Maltz, of Shards, contacted Mr Goodlad after seeing him on TV.

He said: "He's the first real churchman to take a public interest in computers. I think it's a good thing — even if you don't look at the Christian side of it."

"He's taking history and turning it into an adventure with real people."

"We are planning a few more adventures you can believe in."

Mr Maltz said he and his wife Monica did not belong to any denomination, but thought of themselves as religious.

Shards Software, 189 Eton Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 2UQ



Jericho Road — set in turbulent times

Briefly

For working BBC micros, Alligate has brought out three utility programs: Flexibase, Alligatacalc and Scribe II. They cost £9.95 each, and disc versions are available for Flexibase (£13.95) and Scribe II (£14.95).

Alligata, 178 West Street, Sheffield S1 4ET

New software house Solway has brought out two double-game tapes for the TI-99/4A — System Trader, at £5.55, and Cruiser (£4.55). Texas withdrew from home computers just two weeks before Solway was launched — too late to change course — so the firm is now thinking about writing for another computer too.

Solway Software, 6 Curzon Street, Maryport, Cumbria

Sunshine has brought out Graphic Art on the Commodore 64, which helps you to develop a high-res turtle graphics system. Written by Boris Allan, it costs £5.95.

Sunshine, 12-13 Little Newport Street, London WC2R 3LD

ITV micro

From front page

and Centronics interfaces.

It would also have floppy and hard disc ports, a Prestel interface, and the ability to download telesoftware.

Commenting on the reports, David Shaw, of the Independent TV Companies Association, said: "The question of the involvement of ITV as a whole in computer programmes has been looked into. The crucial factor is what the IBA would think because the IBA has to approve any action of this kind."

"The IBA has now given its response, and its reply is due to be considered when we next meet."

"Supposing the response was yes, that wouldn't be the whole story by any means. There are 15 companies in the association, and they've all got to agree."

"Certainly five or six companies are very much looking at the concept of producing ITV computer programs, and some people within certain companies have mooted the idea of an ITV

micro. But some other companies don't think it's appropriate. After all, we do have our advertisers to consider."

"The reports about an ITV micro have jumped the gun. They've given a fair description of some of the proposals we've received, but it's all speculation at this stage."

Tom Hohenberg, of Acorn, when asked what he thought about the rumours, said: "There won't be an ITV micro. It's highly unlikely that all the ITV companies would be able to agree on a specification and marketing strategy. But I expect that individual companies will be doing their own thing, bringing out computer programmes based around existing micros — maybe including the Electron!"

"It's a bit late to think about bringing out a new machine now. We've had enough production problems — we should know." He admitted, however, that "the bubble shows no sign of bursting, and sales of the BBC micro are booming."

All Transam had to say was: "We're not allowed to say anything about it."

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"If more programs shared the quality of OMNICALC, then we might see more Spectrums in offices." Home Computing Weekly 3/5/83

"It is ideal for someone who has just found the spreadsheet concept, but it is also a very powerful tool for anyone who has used one previously." Sinclair User June 1983

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Fun in a bun

Ocean Software took over a software idea from the States for its beefy new game Mr Wimpy.

According to Ocean's MD David Ward: "In the States, all consumer items from MacDonalds to Kool-Aid and Coca-Cola have been put into a computer game. The manufacturers regard it as good promotion. But it's still a new idea here."

Ocean's game includes the Wimpy logo and advertising jingle. The player has to help Mr Wimpy make hamburgers, while fending off Waldo the burger thief and kitchen rebels Oggy Egg and Syd Sos with a pepper pot. It costs £5.90 for the 48K Spectrum.

David Ward said: "At first, we thought we were going to have to pay Wimpy a royalty for using the name. But when they saw the finished product, they liked it so much that they said we could use the name free, because it would be good advertising for them. And I think it will be, because the game is already selling fantastically well."

Wimpy even plans to sell the game in its hamburger shops over Christmas.

Now Ocean is following up Mr Wimpy with other games based on famous names.

It has just launched Royal

Birkdale, a golf simulation based on the well-known Southport golf course, which went down well with the club members themselves.

"They were there in their blazers with gold buttons, stabbing away at the Spectrum keyboard", David Ward recalled.

And Ocean is negotiating with two other well-known companies to launch programs along the same lines early in the new year.

Ocean, Ralli Building, Stanley Street, Manchester M3 5FD



Mr Wimpy — the hero of Ocean's new computer game

Briefly

House of Death, a new game for the Oric, is a follow-up from Tansoft of its Zodiac adventure. A text adventure costing £9.99, House of Death takes place in a disused film set where a werewolf, Dracula, a witch and other unpleasant characters try to stop you leaving. Defence Force is a space shoot-'em-up game at £7.95. Both games are for the 48K Oric and are from Tansoft.

Tansoft, Unit 1, Techno Park, 645 Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8PB

Five new games from Abacus: Proteus, Fireflash, Munnerys Mergatroids, Galactic Warriors and Super Digger. All the games cost £5.95 each, and each include a second BASIC game on the B side. Proteus and Fireflash are also sold along with Abacus's Sentinel and Avenger in a £14.95 gift pack.

Abacus, 716 Llanyfeluch Road, Treboeth, Swansea SA5 9EL

Soft Shop is the name of yet another new chain of software shops, which will be springing up all over the Home Counties over the next few months. The first

shop opened in Chalfont St Peter last November. The idea is for the shops to stock a wide range of software and accessories for different machines. Trained staff will be in attendance, and customers will be encouraged to try programs out in the shop before they buy.

Soft Shop, 10 Church Walk, Chertsey, Surrey

Smiths will soon be stocking the AMS 3 inch disk drive for the BBC micro. The drive is available in a single 100K format at £225 or a 200K format at £399, and runs off the BBC power supply.

AMS, Woodside Technology Centre, Green Lane, Appleton, Warrington, Lancs.

Dynatech has launched Home Filewriter, a do-it-yourself database program, for the Commodore 64 or Atari plus discs. You can type in the screen layout you want using ordinary English commands which the computer translates into code. The program comes with a demonstration disc, and costs £39.95.

Dynatech, Rue du Commerce, Bouet, St Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands

Your micro can put on a slide show

Here's some news about a novel and exciting program available for the VIC-20 and Commodore 64. It is called Color-Craft and can be used to allow the computer to put on a "slide show" or otherwise present variable-time screen displays of text and graphics.

Using the graphics keys, you design screen displays which are then stored. Prior to playback, you decide how long each screen will be displayed. This can create animation and/or cartoon-like effects.

The maximum number of pages available depend upon the obvious factors of screen detail and available memory. For example, a 16K VIC can store from 12 to 50 pages, each page being five characters by 10 lines, whereas a 64K 64 can store as many as 25 full screens (21 by 40). According to reports, the program is even more useful and educational than its advertisements would have you believe. This is a real treat compared to the usual situation.

It is easy enough for most children to use, and is flexible enough to allow real creativity. It is apparently well error-proofed, and supplied with very good documentation.

If you are into graphics and/or want to design your own custom screen displays without a lot of hassle this may be just the thing for you. The programs are bargain priced too. Cassette or disc versions are available. Prices: \$24.95 for VIC and 64 tape versions or \$29.95 for 64 disc. Further details are available from Sim Computer Products, P.O. Box 7, Miquon, PA 19452. (215) 825-4250.



Tandy has announced a printer for the Colour Computer. The unit is set to retail for \$99.95! It is called the TP-10, and is a thermal printer which prints a quiet 32 characters per line at 30 characters per second. Special thermal paper is of course required.

It will work with both the MC-10 Micro Colour Computer as well as the regular Colour Computer. Rolls of thermal paper, four and one half inches wide, are also available from Tandy and will cost about \$3.95 for a package of two rolls. The printer is capable of printing out 95 standard ASCII characters as well as 16 block-graphics characters. See your local dealer for more details. Sounds like a reasonable value.



This item is included more for its humor value than anything else. Several years ago a rush of articles appeared in all the electronics technical magazines which all said about the same thing.

They were devoted to instructing the clever DIY person as to how to wire their regular television set so that their computer could send it direct video.

The result of the modification was the installation of jack on the outside of the set coupled directly to the video amplifier.

This made superfluous the use of a modulator and did much to improve the quality of the computer display. Most of these articles appeared long before the advent of the low cost VDU.

Well, now a firm in San Jose has started to market a little device which they call a tuner adapter. It connects to any monochrome or color computer monitor and, guess what? turns it into a television set!

One of the selling points the firm uses is that for about one third the cost of a color set, buyers can have a spare television.

What is really amusing is that monitors themselves cost so much more than televisions and have so much less circuitry inside.

So now computer users can pay at least one third more for a monitor than a comparably sized television and then pay an addition third to turn their monitor back into a television.

This all makes perfectly good sense if you live out here where I do.

Out of room once again. See you next week.

Bud Izen
Fairfield, California

Free: £1,000 worth of new

MOGUL

software must be won

JUST find the words and a share of £1,000-worth of software could be yours.

We have got together with Mogul, the new force in computer software, for this week's competition.

The 46 winners will receive a prize package of tapes worth about £22 for three of the most popular computers — the Spectrum, VIC-20 and Commodore 64.

Mogul Software, a division of video company Mogul Communications, made its debut in November with both U.S. best sellers and a range produced in Britain.

How to enter

The word square below contains the names of a number of Mogul software titles. They are horizontal, vertical and diagonal.

All you have to do is mark them clearly in ballpoint pen, including your computer — so we know which prizes to send — and the number of titles you found.

All the titles in the square, plus several more, are in this list:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Metamorphosis | Tiny Compiler |
| Zeus | Kongo Kong |
| Creator's Revenge | Earthquake |
| Super Trek | Pyramid |
| The Great | Pollywog |
| Adventure Pack | Crash |
| Potty Planter | Annihilator |
| Las Vegas Lady | Maths Tutor |

When you have completed the word square and the coupon, cut around the broken lines and enclose the attached two in an envelope addressed to Mogul Software Competition, Home Computing Weekly, No. 1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB.

This is our new address from close of business on December 19.

Important: you must also write on the back of the envelope the number of software titles you found. Any without this will be discarded.

Entries close at first post on Friday December 30.

You may enter as many times as you wish, provided each is on the official word square and coupon, not copies, and in a separate envelope.

The winners will be the first 46 correct entries opened, regardless which of the three computers have been marked on the coupons.

The solution and the names of the winners will appear on the news pages of Home Computing Weekly and the prizes will arrive from Mogul within 28 days of that issue.

Are you good with words? See how many Mogul titles you can find in our word square and you could be among our 46 winners of great new software



The rules

The first 46 correct entries drawn will win the prizes. Coupons which are not fully completed and envelopes without the number of differences found on the back will not be considered.

Entries close at first post on Friday, December 30, 1983.

Entries will not be accepted from employees of Argus Specialist Publications, Mogul and Alabaster Passmore & Sons. This restriction also applies to employees' families and agents of the companies.

The winners' names and the solution will appear in Home Computing Weekly. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.



Mogul Software Competition Entry Coupon

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Address _____

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Computer _____

Number of differences found _____

Please complete carefully and post to Mogul Software Competition, No. 1 Golden Square, London W1R 3AB. Closing date: First post Friday December 30, 1983

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P	Y	R	A	M	I	D	V	M	X	D	S	C	R	A	S	H	O	P
M	E	T	A	M	O	R	P	H	O	S	I	S	J	I	R	X	Z	A





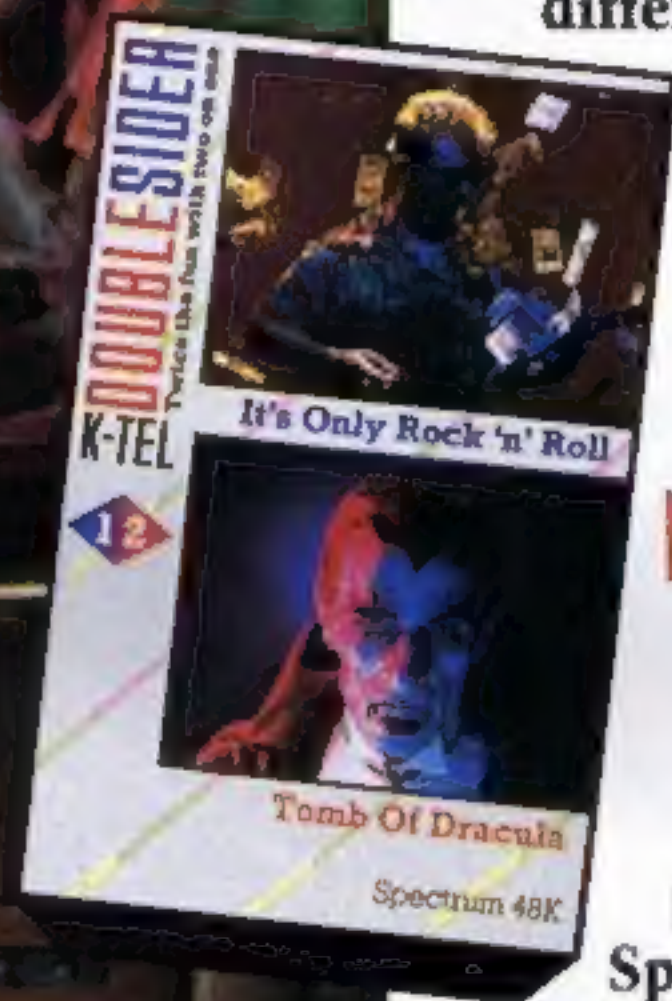
Once you've got to grips with the Rock 'n' Roll game, flip-over and get your teeth into Dracula.

New K-tel Doublesiders are great fun and great value whichever way round you look at them.

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1 **It's Only Rock 'n' Roll** Can you become a superstar? A Rock 'n' Roll idol...Or are you just another has been? You've got a lot of energy, a bit of money and a great future. But can you stay the course, stand the heartbreaking disappointments, fraud, scandal, even arrest? Can you capture the hearts and wallets of the public and become a Rock 'n' Roll idol?

2 **Tomb Of Dracula** Darkness is falling...The vampires are hungry...You can't go back...Your only chance of survival lies ahead. The walls are cold and clammy. With each step you remember the horrors ahead, ghouls, zombies and pits of choking slime. In your hand you have but seven silver stakes with which to defend yourself...Dare you face the ultimate evil...and win.

from — three suitable for the ZX Spectrum and two for the Commodore Vic 20 — and there are more to come.

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Twice the fun with two on one.

Shark Attack
Spectrum
£5.99

Romik, 272 Argyll Avenue, Slough, Berks

Just when you thought it was safe to go in the sea again, Romik introduces Shark Attack.

You must surround sharks with a continuous net, to prevent them eating you, or the octopuses. If a shark eats an octopus, it can eat the net and this creates a bit of bother.

Three skill levels are provided, and the cassette mentions that the game works with Kempston or Sinclair joysticks. Sinclair joysticks? Does Romik know something we don't know?

When the sharks finally finish you off, you are asked to enter your initials for the Hall of Fame; however, to do so, you are asked

to use the fire button. What fire button? Until this stage there is no mention of a fire button.

Is this a casualty of the Christmas rush, where subroutines are lifted wholesale from previous efforts and simply tacked on? Pretty poor and unprofessional if you ask me!

Despite the underwater setting, this game is too derivative to excite even the most unjaded of palates.

Try throwing yourself on the sharks for a change, the graphics and sound effects for a 'kill' are quite good! **M.B.**

instructions	40%
playability	70%
graphics	70%
value for money	70%



Hop It!
TI-99/4A
(Extended BASIC) £6.95

Lantern Software, 4 Haffenden Road, Tenterden TN30 6QD

Yet another game of Frogger, and

by far the poorest that I have seen, the more so since the use of Extended BASIC and sprites confers the potential for an excellent imitation.

What lets this program down very heavily is the appalling keyboard response, giving delays of up to a second.

The worst is when attempting to cross from a log to a turtle. The

delay here is inconsistent, which introduces an element of chance into a game which is otherwise dependent upon manual and intellectual skills.

Although the task of getting a frog across a road and a river to a pool, avoiding hazards on the way, is not timed, it is a good graphical imitation of the real thing.

There are turtles which submerge if you leave the frog on them for too long, so if you're not

a quick decision-maker you could take a long time to build up a score.

Land in a pool containing a fly, and you get bonus points, and when all the pools have frogs in them you get an extra frog and the game speeds up. **P.B.**

instructions	65%
playability	35%
graphics	85%
value for money	60%



River Rescue
48K Spectrum
£7

Thorn-EMI, Upper St Martin's Lane, London WC2H 9ED

River Rescue is a kind of water-borne Scramble/Penetrator game.

You have a bird's eye view of a river and its banks which scroll across the screen. Your task is to pilot your motor gun-boat avoiding islands and crocodiles.

If you manage to shoot the crocs you gain points; if you hit them, you sink!

Every now and then you have the opportunity to collect explorers from the north bank and deliver them to the south, and gain more points.

The more explorers you collect, the more the program offers extra scoring facilities; get really good,

and two planes start to bomb you in addition!

The game is incredibly fast and furious, as there is no skill level adjustment, which I rate as a disadvantage.

There are other snags too; the boat tends to crash when it's near an obstacle rather than being in contact with it; the animation is rather crude and the sound dull and repetitive.

I suppose I expected a large company like Thorn-EMI to produce a program which was technically superior to those of the small software houses.

The question must be asked: are you paying an extra pound or so for a flash inlay card and large corporate overheads? **D.M.**

instructions	100%
playability	60%
graphics	60%
value for money	60%



Ship of the Line
Commodore 64
£6.50

Richard Shepherd Software, 3-25 Elmshott Lane, Chippenham, Slough, Berks

Up to now Richard Shepherd has concentrated on the Spectrum, so this program represents an excursion into new fields.

Quite simply, you control a sailing ship and endeavour to gain promotion by sinking or capturing enemy ships. You set sail with a full complement of men, food and ammunition and search for the enemy.

One word commands such as go-on, attack, engage, port etc. to manipulate your ship. Enemy ships can be attacked but if you elect not to attack they will pursue you.

During an attack you can sink

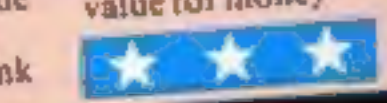
or board the ship and gain points. Throughout the voyage you are subjected to sundry mishaps such as mutinies, scurvy, bad food and yellow fever. This generally depletes your food, men or both.

It is wise to return to port occasionally to replenish your ship. If, on return to port, you have enough 'hero' points, you will be considered for promotion. Promotion will finally depend on a ridiculously banal test.

Overall, not a wonderful game. Graphics were mediocre and sound was appalling. The game didn't do justice to the power of the 64.

Basically a good idea which lacked imagination and thought. **A.W.**

instructions	60%
playability	60%
graphics	50%
value for money	60%



Angler
48K Spectrum
£5.95

Virgin Games, 61/63 Portobello Road, London W11

You have 100 casts to catch as many fish as possible. The fish move smoothly from side to side in 18 rows, and you can move your boat along the surface of the

sea. It is very difficult to catch the fish, because it is hard to cast the line in the correct position.

To catch the fish in deeper waters, you must also make sure that the line doesn't hit any fish on its way down, otherwise the line reels back, so it's a wasted cast.

I found it practically impossible to catch the deeper fish, even on the easiest of the five skill levels.

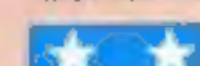
If you catch a crab, you lose a point with each cast. However, the smaller version of the meanest-looking fish will eat all your crabs — if you manage to catch one!

Every go you must type in your name — it would be better if you only had to when you get a high score. You can make a printout of the Hall of Fame or Certificate of Merit — they are shown with each score.

It is so difficult to catch the fish

that you tend to lose interest quickly — a bit like real-life fishing. **S.E.**

instructions	80%
playability	35%
graphics	60%
value for money	40%





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AGF

JOYSTICK INTERFACE II for Spectrum or ZX81



NEW PRICE

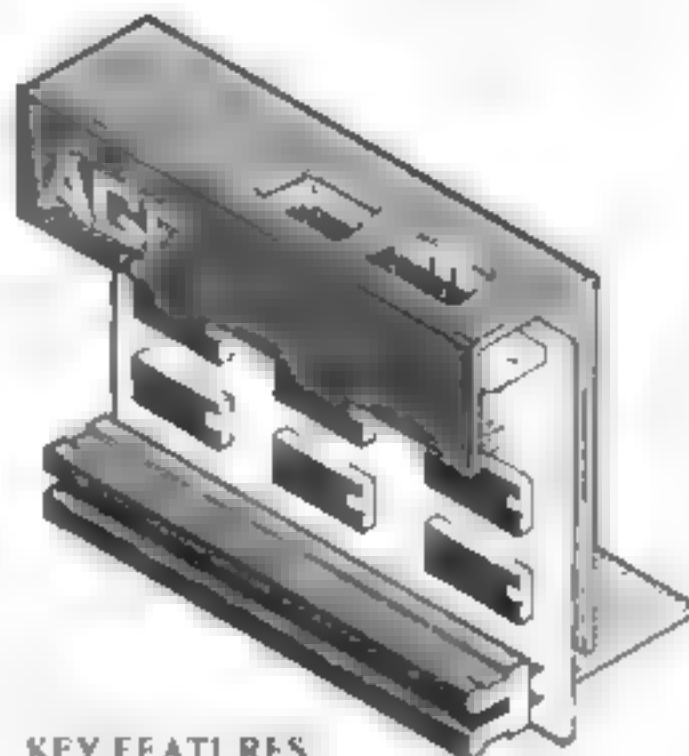
JOYSTICK INTERFACE

The Interface Module II has been specially designed to plug on to the rear connector of your ZX Spectrum or ZX81 and allow you to connect any standard Atari type digital Joysticks. All of the computer's connections are duplicated on an extension connector so that you can still use any other devices intended for use with your computer. The Interface Module II resides in the same memory space as the keyboard, which remains fully functional at all times, therefore it will not interfere with anything else connected.

When a suitable joystick is plugged into 'Player 1' socket its action will mimic pressing the cursor keys, up "↑", left "←" and so on. The firing button will simulate key "F". This unique feature guarantees the best software support.

Take a look at the selection of compatible games we have listed. More are being added all the time as a result of our contact with the various software companies.

A second Joystick may be connected in the 'Player 2' position which simulates in a parallel fashion keys "I-Y U J". This will allow you to play a whole new generation of two player games.



KEY FEATURES

- Proven cursor key simulation for maximum software support
- Accepts Atari, Competition Pro, Wico, Starfighter, Le Stick, etc Joysticks
- Second Joystick facility
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Splat!	: Incentive Software Ltd	£5.50
Phoenix	: Megadodo Software	£5.50
Escape	: New Generation Software	£4.95
3D Tunnel	: " "	£5.95
Knot in 3D	: " "	£5.95
Cyber Rats	: Silversoft	£5.95

COMPATIBILITY CASSETTES £4.95

These cassettes have short programs to load before the chosen game which will convert it to use the cursor keys and therefore become compatible with the Interface Module II

Cassette 1 converts	Cassette 2 converts
Arcadia	Centipede
Schizoids	Planetoids
Hungry Horace	Jet-Pac
Horace Goes Skiing	+ Pssst
Spectres	+ 3D Combat Zone
Penetrator	+ Invaders

+ Will require 48K Memory.

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	JOYSTICK(S)	7.54	
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Here's how to ease the shock of those bills

Do you find your power bills difficult to believe? Now you can check them — and get the bad news earlier

My program, for the Dragon 32, works out gas and electricity bills and all you have to do is to follow the prompts

You will be presented with a menu of three choices: gas, electricity or end of program

The first is quite straightforward but gas bill calculation is slightly more complex (and confusing) due to the illogical way in which these bills are calculated

In the south east region, variable G will be .28p (standing charge per week), but other areas may differ

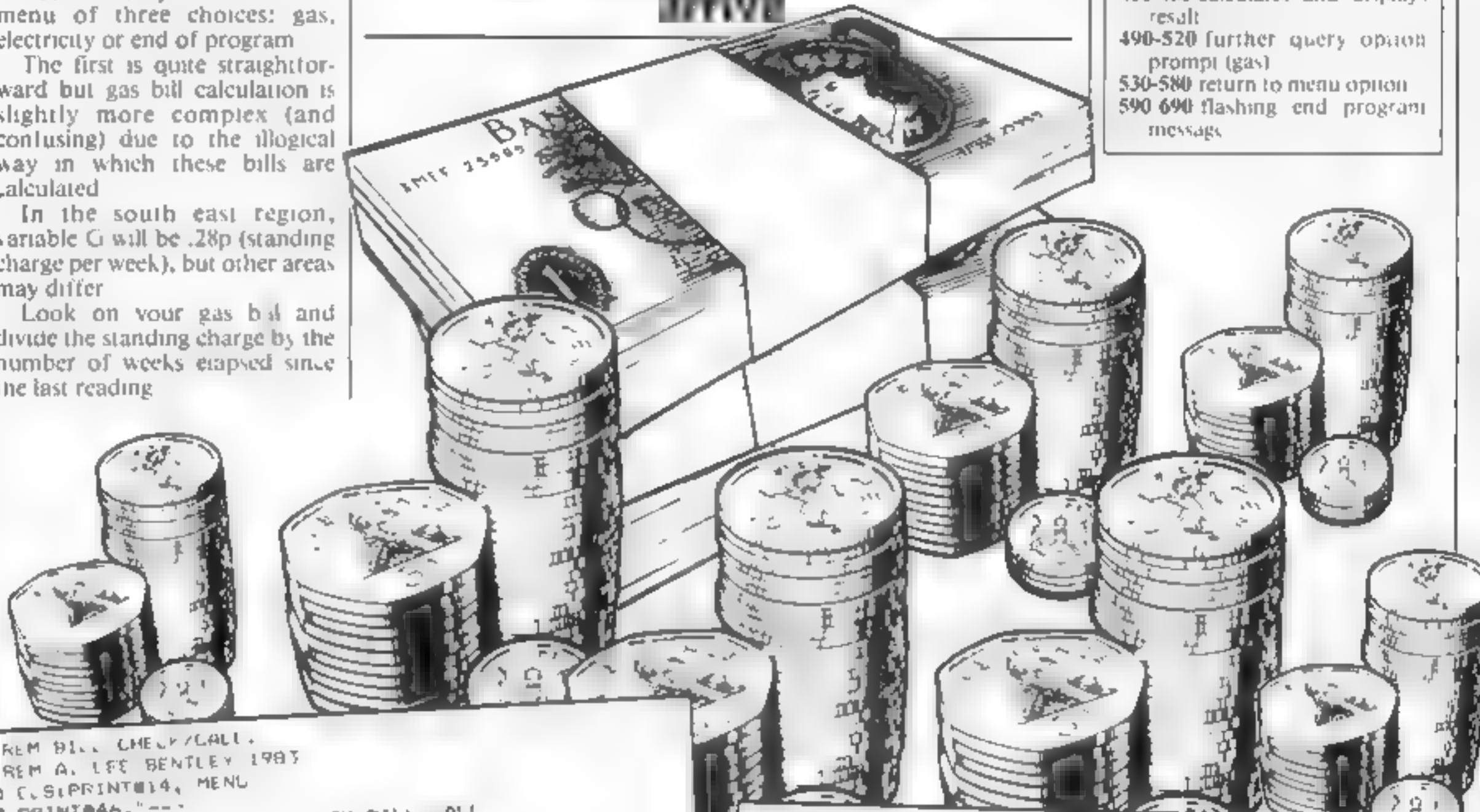
Look on your gas bill and divide the standing charge by the number of weeks elapsed since the last reading

Prepare for the worst with A. Lee-Bentley's program for the Dragon. It will work out your gas and electricity bills before the buff envelopes

ACTIVE

How it works

- 5-100 display menu
- 110-180 set variables for electricity bill
- 190-260 calculate, display result
- 270-300 further query option prompt (elec)
- 310-390 set variables for gas bill
- 400-480 calculates and displays result
- 490-520 further query option prompt (gas)
- 530-580 return to menu option
- 590-690 flashing end program message



```

5 REM BILL CHECK/CALL
6 REM A. LEE BENTLEY 1983
10 CLS:PRINT@14, MENU
20 PRINT@46, "----"
30 PRINT@100, "(1) ELECTRICITY BILL CALL
40 PRINT@37, "(2) GAS BILL CALC."
50 PRINT@164, "3) END PROGRAMME
60 PRINT@393, "INPUT 1 "
70 AS=INKEY$:IFAS="" THEN?B
80 Z=ASC AS:4B
90 IFZ 1ORZ 3 THEN?B
100 ON Z GOTO110,310,590
110 CLS
120 PRINT@2, "ELECTRICITY BILL CALCULATION
130 PRINT@74, "-----"
140 FORI=0TO500:NEXTI
150 PRINT:INPUT"ENTER PRESENT READING":A
160 INPUT"ENTER PREVIOUS READING":B
170 INPUT"ENTER PRICE PER UNIT":D
180 INPUT"ENTER STANDING CHARGE":E
190 CLS:PRINT@7, "electricity bill calculation
200 PRINT@34, "-----"
210 C=A-B:T=C*D+E
220 PRINT@64, METER READING UNITS COST
230 PRINT@96, "LAST PRESENT TOTAL AT # . P
240 PRINT@120, "-----"
250 PRINT@160,B:PRINT@165,A:PRINT@174,C:PRINT@179 D PR.
N@184, "$":T
260 FORI=0TO800:NEXTI
270 PRINT@262, "FURTHER QUERY(Y/N)"
280 K=INKEY$:IFK="" THEN280
290 ON INSTR(1, "Y", K)GOTO110
300 ON INSTR(1, "N", K)GOTO530
310 CLS
320 PRINT@5, "GAS BILL CALCULATION"
330 PRINT@37, "-----"
340 FORI=1TO800:NEXTI
350 PRINT:INPUT"ENTER PRESENT READING":A

```

```

760 PRINT:INPUT"ENTER PREVIOUS READING":B
770 PRINT:INPUT"ENTER WEEKS SINCE LAST READ":D
780 PRINT:INPUT"ENTER PRICE PER THERM":F
790 PRINT:INPUT"ENTER STANDING CHARGE":G
400 CLS:PRINT@5, "gas bill calculation"
410 PRINT@37, "-----"
420 L=A-B:F=C*F
430 H=P-D:K=C-D:Y=X/10
440 J=(G+Y+H)*D
450 PRINT@65, "METER READING UNITS COST
460 PRINT@96, "LAST PRESENT USED AT # . P
470 PRINT@120, "-----"
480 PRINT@160,B:PRINT@166,A:PRINT@174,C:PRINT@
179,F:PRINT@185, "$":J
490 PRINT@262, "FURTHER QUERY?(Y/N)"
500 IC=INKEY$:IFIC="" THEN490
510 ON INSTR(1, "Y", IC)GOTO310
520 ON INSTR(1, "N", IC)GOTO530
530 CLS
540 PRINT@230, "RETURN TO MENU?(Y/N)"
550 E=INKEY$:IFE="" THEN540
560 CLS
570 ON INSTR(1, "Y", E)GOTO10
580 ON INSTR(1, "N", E)GOTO600
590 CLS
600 PRINT@204, "THANK YOU *"
610 PRINT@265, "HAVE A NICE DAY"
620 FORT=0TO400:NEXTT
630 PRINT@169, "*****"
640 PRINT@200, " "
650 PRINT@272, " "
660 PRINT@264, " "
670 PRINT@296, "*****"
680 FORT=0TO400:NEXTT
690 GOTO600

```

LUNAR JETMAN - For the 48K Sinclair ZX Spectrum
LUNAR JETMAN - The Ultimate Intergalactic G.A.S. (Graphic Arcade Simulation) Adventure Space Battle
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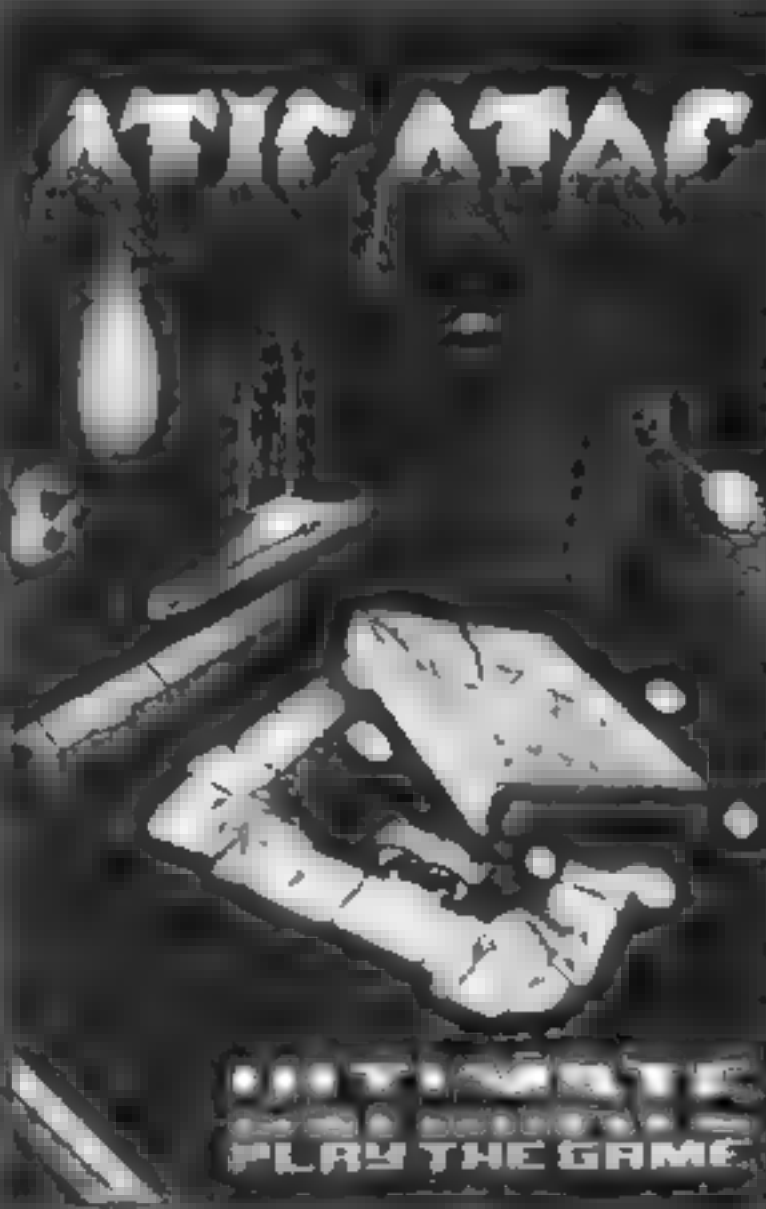
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House of Bugs
TI-99/4A
(Extended
BASIC,
Joystick) £5.95

Temptation Software, 27 Cinque Ports Street, Rye, Sussex

Happily, the only bugs to be found in this program are those to be seen jumping around the screen in the House of Bugs.

The house has a basement, ground, first and second floors and a roof. By controlling your man, one of four, a high score must be obtained by climbing ladders to the upper floors.

Lingering on lower levels results in points being deducted.

When the game starts, the four resident bugs are to be found on the roof.

As play progresses, some will

descend the ladders, eager to leap on to your head.

Your only protection is to jump to the ceiling and drop down on the bug as he passes. This will gain bonus points, but once a square of ceiling has been damaged it cannot be used again until re-plastered.

Repairs are only carried out when the score reaches 300. For every 600 points gained, the second floor ceiling is repaired and you earn an extra man.

While plastering is in progress the bugs go wild, so whether it's you or those bugs that are hopping by the end of the game depends on how fast those reactions are!

J.W.

instructions	90%
playability	80%
graphics	90%
value for money	90%



Road Toad
Commodore 64
£8.95

Audiogenic, 34-36 Crown Street, Reading, Berks

No home computer, it seems, is complete without its own version of the arcade favourite, Frogger.

This release for the 64 is guaranteed to keep arcade fanatics happy for hours.

For those hermits who have never actually played Frogger, the basic idea is to guide a green frog across a road avoiding fast cars and through a crocodile infested river.

To cross the river requires skill, leaping on to moving turtles and

Playing at
the speed of
byte

This week's roundup of action games for a range of micros

logs, while avoiding the crocs.

As the game progresses, snakes will appear by the road side and attempt to eat your frog, and the pace gets much faster.

Leaping onto a female frog gains bonus points, and once four frogs have been safely housed in the safe areas at the top of the screen a new sheet begins.

I particularly liked the graphics on this game — the frog moved very realistically. But the instruct-

ions, which assumed that the owner has played Frogger before, were a little confusing.

Anyone who likes Frogger will find this version extremely satisfying.

D.A.

instructions	60%
playability	75%
graphics	95%
value for money	70%



Storm Arrows
Dragon 32
£7.95

Dragon Data, Kenfig Industrial Estate, Margam, Port Talbot, W Glamorgan

The object of this game is to shoot the deadly arrows that are flying in all directions around a maze.

Tactics are required, however because "master arrows" appear and lay eggs on the grid.

These eggs hatch as you shoot the last two arrows. If you successfully clear all the hostile arrows, a new screen is presented in different colours.

Before play starts, you are asked to input three initials for the high score table displayed at the end of the game. Since I have only two initials, I found that I had to

invent a third one!

A good point is that a new name can be input before each round if required by pressing Enter.

There are many other good features, including on-screen scoring with high score, time and round bonuses, and extra points for certain hits.

The graphics are smooth and fast and the game is fun to play and addictive.

The sound is reasonably good with a satisfying twang when a laser is fired. There are no melodious tunes, though — unlike many of the new arcade games.

E.C.

instructions	90%
playability	90%
graphics	90%
value for money	90%



Barreldrop
48K Spectrum
£5.95

Games Machine, Business and Technology Centre, Bessemer Drive, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2DN

An unusual game written in BASIC which shows what the Spectrum is capable of without too much machine code.

The main section is a variation of Bagatelle. Your character, Gordon, rolls barrels along the roof. When you press space they fall to the ground.

If you press when the barrel is immediately over a drainpipe you unblock it. Your task is to unblock five drains.

Sometimes if you miss Gordon's dog Flash will retrieve the barrel and give you another try. If you succeed in unblocking all

five drains then you get a 'surprise' before the next sheet in the form of an unrelated problem or game, for example, mini Space Invaders.

Colour, sound and graphics are all reasonably well used but unfortunately for Games Machine, the big boys have set the standards of animation which we expect from a commercial program.

Although this is a competent and enjoyable game, it lacks polish, each of the sections are of the standard of good magazine listings.

But, you get children or inexperienced gamers would enjoy this game.

R.F.

instructions	80%
playability	60%
graphics	50%
value for money	60%



Laser Snaker
48K Spectrum
£5.95

Poppy Soft, The Close, Common Road, Headley, Newbury, Berks

I have seen one or two variations of games where a player has to guide a 'snake' round an obstacle course, and this is one of the best I have seen so far.

Although it may seem easy, I

can assure you that it isn't — even at Trainee level, and difficulty 0, which is my level!

There are 15 sheets or playing areas to get through, and after two hours I managed sheet 9, but my fingers refused to cooperate any more.

As an incentive, there is a prize if you manage to complete sheet 15. If you manage this at speed 9 for expert, and difficulty 4, then I would suggest that the prize is a six month stay in a psychiatric

ward to recuperate!

The cursor control keys move the snake round the playing area and if you should need a rest — and you will — then key P will hold the game for you. Key O fires a burst of venom at whatever gets in the way of the snake.

You should have no problems with loading, but I would suggest that you only load this game when you have at least a couple of hours to spare.

Although the graphics are

nothing to write home about, the display is pleasing enough, and the snake movement is very smooth.

Not too fast, and not too slow I found it a very playable game.

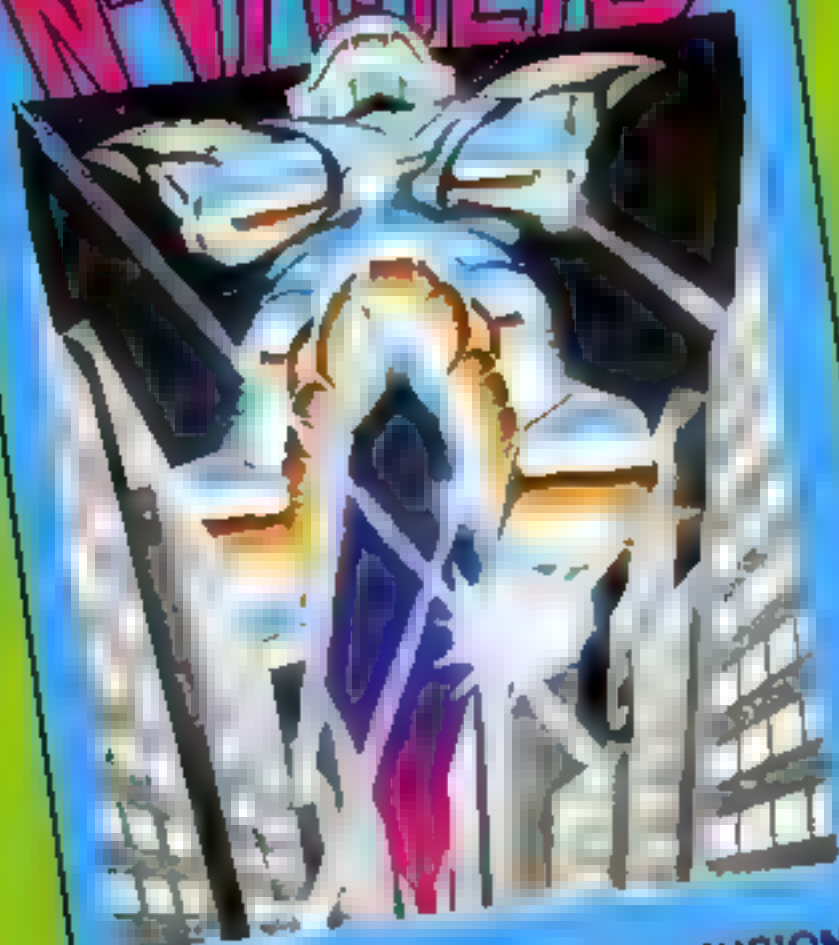
B.B.

instructions	100%
playability	100%
graphics	75%
value for money	100%



We've got the Aquarius taped!

'N' VADERS



AQUARIUS & 16K EXTENSION

Now for the first time you can buy cassette based software for your Aquarius. All the excitement of arcade type action at the low, low price of £5.95.

'N' Vaders

The classic arcade golden oldie but written in machine code for fast exciting action. Pit your wits and skills against squadrons of coloured weirdos. Blast them all from the sky - but beware, they get faster and meaner

Ed'on

Control the speed and direction of planes to win through. An updated version of the addictive arcade game Accelerate decelerate dodge and change lanes. If you manage to avoid destruction you go on to higher things

ED-ON



AQUARIUS & 16K EXTENSION

JUST RELEASED

Phrogger

A collection of all other... amazing graphics. Hop skip and jump across all... take your life in your controls to reach safety

Aliens

You are one of the chosen Gatherers' selected by your unique abilities and talents. Probe the mysteries of the past times building. Gather the secrets of the Universe. Have you the mental strength to survive and the character to win?

Chuckman

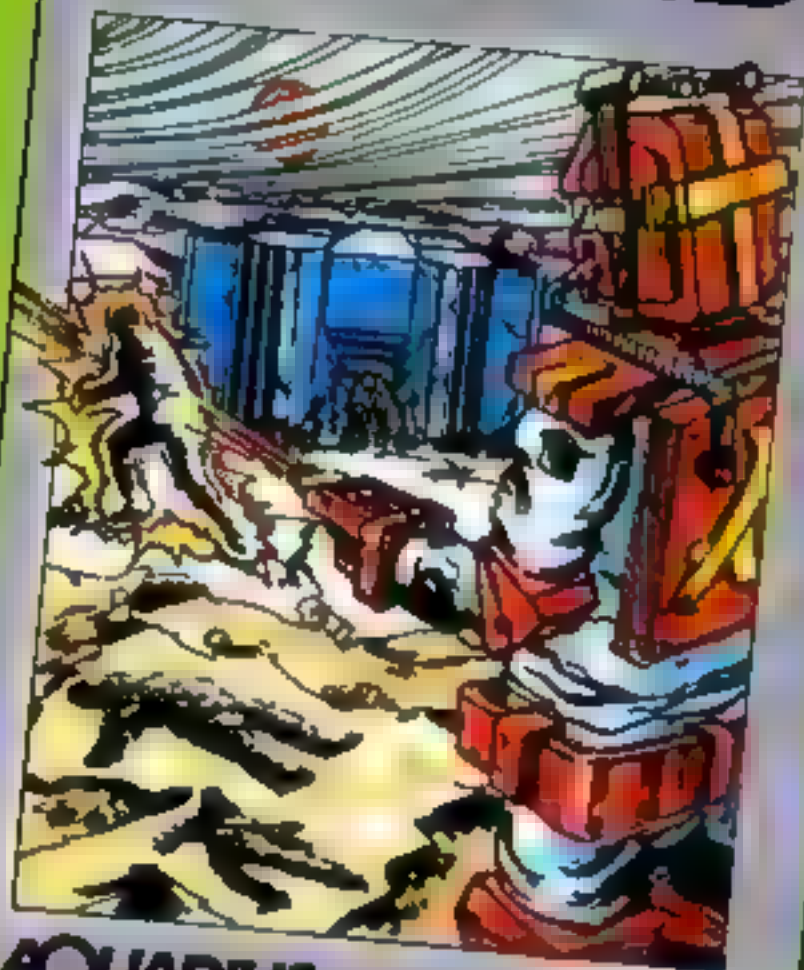
Based on the ever-popular arcade game with extra extras. Find the quickest route, avoid the meanies and defuse the time bombs to win the day. But beware, this game is addictive, you'll risk sleep and peace of mind

Chuckman



AQUARIUS & 16K EXTENSION

Aliens



AQUARIUS & 16K EXTENSION

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Please rush me: _____ (qty) 'N' Vader _____ (qty) Ed'on
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Turning turtle

Turtle graphics — without a Super Expander? Alan Wilburn explains how it can be done — and on any VIC-20 with 3K or 8K memory expansion

The lack of the necessary graphics commands and the cost of a Super Expander cartridge inspired this program to allow high resolution drawing on the VIC-20. Before starting to write the program, I decided to meet two requirements.

Firstly, the program had to draw complex shapes using a minimum of commands, with the emphasis on ease of use. Secondly, the program had to be compatible with both 3K and 8K memory expansion.

The first requirement was easily met by using the 'turtle' technique. This is an imaginary pen that can be moved around the screen with two simple commands — turn (x) and draw (x). By repeatedly using these commands, complex shapes could easily be programmed.

At first, the second requirement seemed harder to meet. The high resolution screen uses most of the user RAM from \$1000 to \$1E00, so storing the program in the 3K expansion area would have made it inaccessible to machines with only 8K expansion and vice versa.

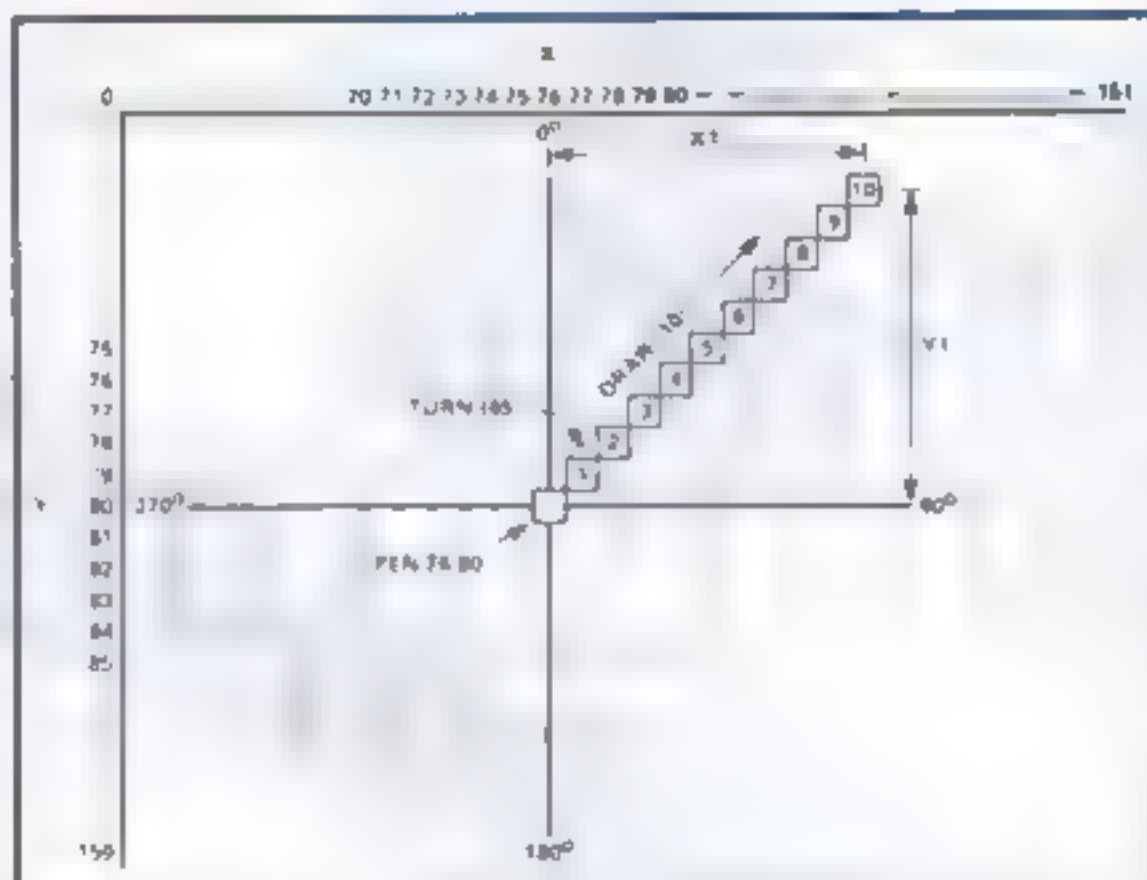
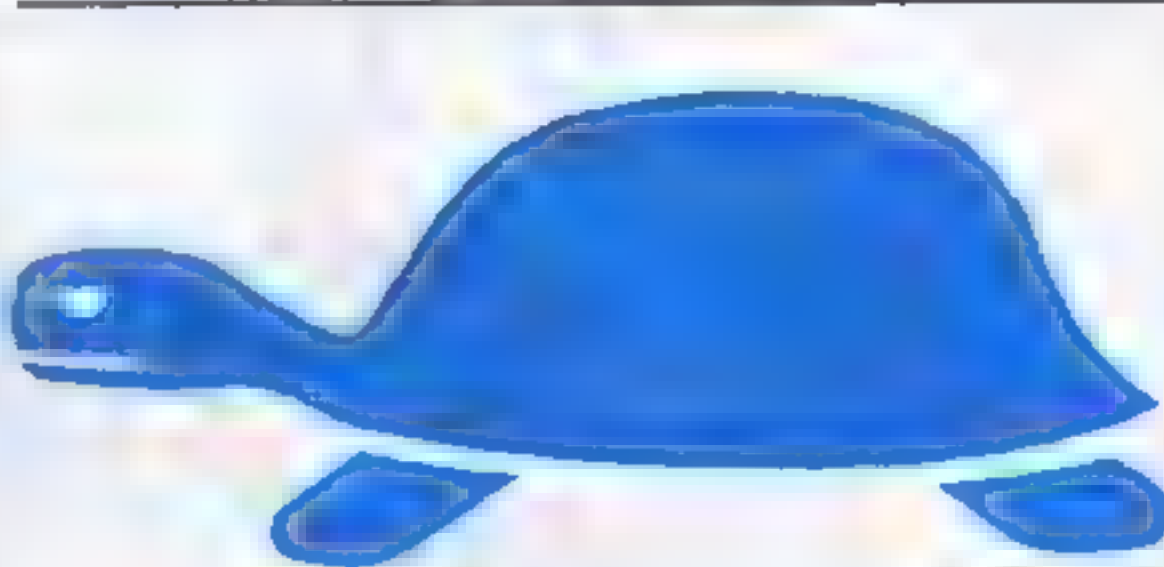
The solution was to reduce the size of the high resolution screen and store the VIC PEN routines just below the normal screen location from \$1C00 to \$1E00, making it accessible to VICs with either 3K or 8K expansion (see Figure 1).

The program itself assigns four extra commands to VIC BASIC. Listed below is a brief description of each command.

VICPEN switches on the high resolution screen and points the pen upwards ready to draw.

PEN X,Y (x = 0 to 151 Y = 0 to 159) sets the start position for the draw command and can also be used to plot an individual pixel.

TURN (X) (X = 0 to 255) turns the pen through X degrees from its current direction. Greater angles than 255° can be programmed by using the command twice, i.e. **TURN (0): TURN (90) = 270°**



TURN (0) returns the pen to the UP direction from any direction.

DRAW (X) draws a line of length (x) in the direction determined by the command **TURN (x)**. The value of X defaults to screen limits (151 and 159).

Consider the Demo 1 program along with its graphical representation in Figure 2.

The start co-ordinates of the pen are stored in addresses \$F8 and \$FC by the command **PEN 76,80**. The turn routine converts the 45° angle to radians and stores the result in the floating point store. The Sine and Cosine of the angle are then calculated and also stored as floating point numbers.

The results of these calcula-

tions produce the offsets X1 and Y1 which when added to the current X and Y values produce the new position of the pen.

The draw routine merely adds the value of the offsets X1 and Y1 to the X and Y values as many times as determined by the command **DRAW (10)**.

After entering the program, it should be saved before it is run as any errors may hang up the computer. The program will run on any expanded VIC.

However, if more than 3K expansion is fitted, then the VIC should be reconfigured by **POKE 642,32: POKE 648,30: SYS 64824** before loading and then omit lines 10 and 20.

Demo 2 and Demo 3 are two short routines which demonstrate

how the commands are used to draw simple shapes. Line 100 prevents the Ready message from corrupting the display. Pressing any key will return the VIC screen to normal.

Graphic representation of Demo 1

where $A = \text{Angle} = 45^\circ$ and $L = \text{Length} = 0$
 then $X1 = \text{INT}(\sin(A) * L + 0.5)$
 $X = X + X1$
 $Y1 = \text{INT}(\cos(A) * L + 0.5)$
 $Y = Y - Y1$

Demo 1 (draws a line from center of screen at an angle of 45°)

```
10 VICPEN
20 PEN 76,80
30 TURN (45)
40 DRAW (10)
```

The high resolution screen consists of 152 x 160 plottable points where x = 0 to 151 and Y = 0 to 159

Figure 1

8K expansion	\$ 2000
Normal video RAM	\$ 1E00
VIC-PEN	\$ 1C00
High resolution screen	\$ 1000
3K expansion	\$ 0400

Demo 2 draws square

```
10 VICPEN
20 PEN 76,80
30 TURN (90), DRAW (40)
40 TURN (90), DRAW (40)
50 TURN (90), DRAW (40)
60 TURN (90), DRAW (40)
100 WAIT 198,7: SYS12
```

Demo 3 draws cube

```
10 VICPEN
20 PEN 60,60
30 FOR X = 1 TO 15
40 READ A
50 TURN (A): DRAW (40)
60 NEXT
100 WAIT 198,7: SYS12
110 DATA 90,90,90,90,45,45,90,45,135,45,135,90,90,180,45
```

VIC-20 PROGRAM

```

10 POKE56,28 POKE55,0
20 POKE52,28 POKE51,0
30 FORX=7660T07679 READA POKE5,A NEXT
40 FORX=673T0767 READA POKE5,A NEXT
60 FORX=7168T07338 READA POKE5,A NEXT
70 SYS7660
80 FORX=7339T07679 READA POKE5,A NEXT
90 NEW
100 DATA162,7,189,248,29,157,4,3,202,16
110 DATA247,96,0,28,82,28,133,28,134,206
120 DATA7,207,74,29,153,29,170,28,4,29,7,207
130 DATA67,79,76,79,85,210,68,82,65,215
140 DATA80,69,206,86,73,67,80,69,206,84,85,82,206
150 DATA84,73,205,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0
160 DATA128,64,32,16,8,4,2,1
170 DATA0,16,160,16,64,17,224,17,128,18
180 DATA32,19,192,19,96,20,0,21,160,21
190 DATA64,22,224,22,128,23,32,24,192,24
200 DATA96,25,0,26,160,26,64,27
210 DATA32,124,197,160,5,185,251,1,240,71
220 DATA201,65,144,64,201,91,176,60,132,177
230 DATA162,0,134,11,56,253,173,2,240,19
240 DATA201,128,240,22,189,173,2,240,39,48
250 DATA3,232,208,246,230,11,164,177,169,208
260 DATA185,251,1,232,208,224,166,177,165,11
270 DATA24,185,204,157,251,1,200,232,185,251
280 DATA1,157,251,1,208,246,164,177,200,208
290 DATA180,96,8,201,255,240,42,36,15,48
300 DATA38,201,204,144,34,40,56,233,203,170
310 DATA132,73,160,255,202,240,8,200,185,173
320 DATA2,16,250,48,245,200,185,173,2,48
330 DATA5,32,210,255,208,245,76,239,198,40
340 DATA76,26,199,32,115,0,201,204,144,25
350 DATA201,210,176,21,32,150,28,76,174,199
360 DATA233,203,18,168,185,162,2,72,185,161

```

```

370 DATA2,72,76,115,0,32,121,0,76,231
380 DATA199,162,0,160,16,24,32,153,255,169
390 DATA30,133,254,134,253,138,168,72,162,19
400 DATA145,253,24,105,10,200,208,2,230,254
410 DATA202,208,243,104,24,105,1,201,11,208
420 DATA232,169,147,141,2,144,169,21,141,3
430 DATA144,169,252,141,5,144,160,0,173,134
440 DATA2,153,0,150,153,0,151,200,208,247
450 DATA169,16,133,254,132,253,152,162,12,145
460 DATA253,200,208,251,230,254,202,208,246,16
470 DATA3,32,158,215,138,208,4,133,250,133
480 DATA249,24,101,250,144,2,230,249,168,133
490 DATA250,165,249,32,145,211,32,15,220,160
500 DATA29,169,251,32,5,219,160,29,162,246
510 DATA32,215,219,32,104,226,160,2,162,205
520 DATA32,215,219,160,29,169,246,32,162,219
530 DATA32,97,226,160,2,162,200,32,215,219
540 DATA96,32,158,215,134,191,169,241,160,29
550 DATA32,162,219,169,205,160,2,32,77,216
560 DATA162,241,160,29,32,215,219,32,73,216
570 DATA32,170,209,192,152,144,2,160,151,132
580 DATA251,169,236,160,29,32,162,219,169,200
590 DATA160,2,32,80,216,70,102,162,236,160
600 DATA29,32,215,219,32,73,216,32,170,209
610 DATA192,160,144,2,160,159,132,252,208,13
620 DATA32,158,215,134,251,32,253,206,32,158
630 DATA215,134,252,165,251,74,74,74,10,170
640 DATA189,218,2,133,253,189,219,2,133,254
650 DATA165,251,41,7,170,189,210,2,164,252
660 DATA17,253,145,253,166,191,240,3,202,208
670 DATA129,130,164,251,32,145,211,162,241,160
680 DATA29,32,215,219,169,0,164,252,32,145
690 DATA211,162,236,160,29,32,215,219,96,0
700 DATA0,0,135,32,0,0,0,135,24,0
710 DATA0,0,0,101,46,224,210,134,101,46,224,210

```

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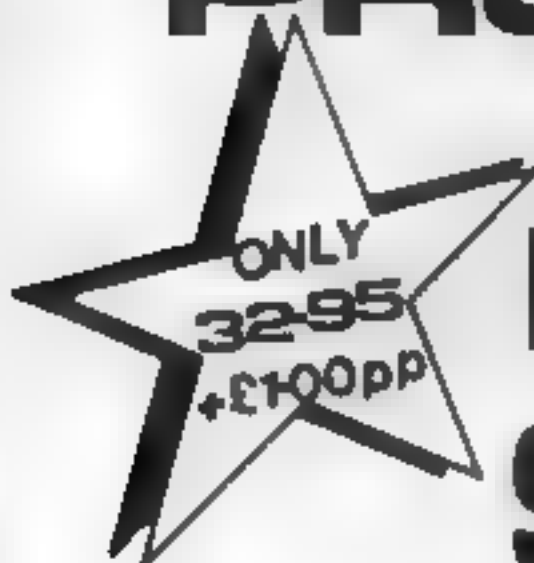
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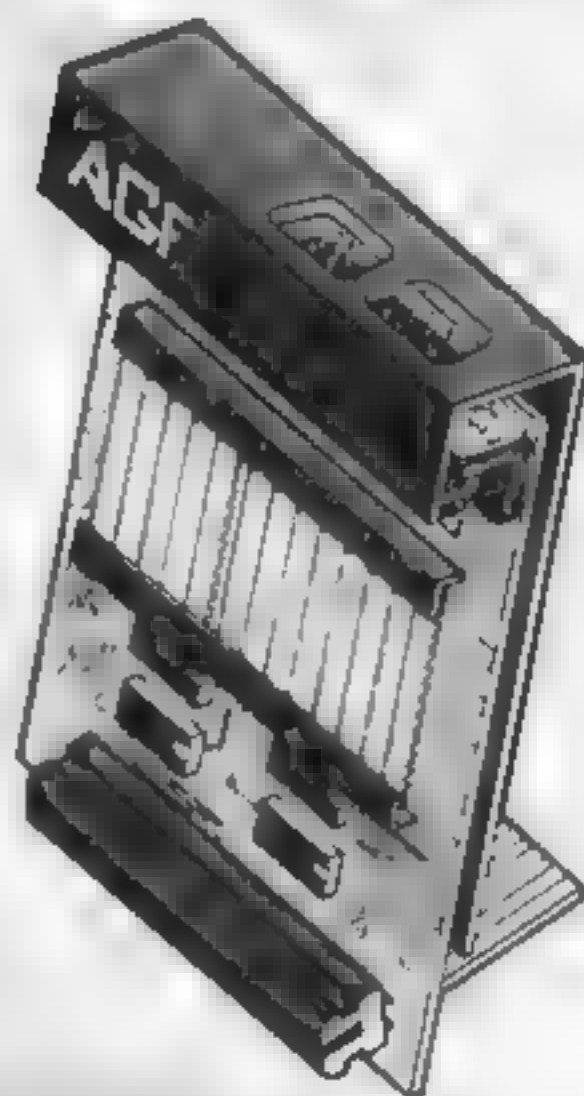
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SOFTWARE REVIEWS

Alien Encounters

Our reviewers guide you through some software encounters of the cosmic kind

Cylon Attack 32K BBC £7.90

A&F, 830 Hyde Road, Gorton, Manchester M18 7JD

The term "state of the art" is much over-used in computing, and you should rightly feel sceptical when it is used without thought.

I have thought for quite a while before deciding to describe this

game as a state of the art offering. My reasons for giving it such an accolade are many, but basically it comes down to this. I have never seen a better thought out and executed game — nor am I likely to see such an original idea for some time to come.

The aim of the game is the obliteration of various types of alien. I've heard this before, you say, but wait.

The aliens appear in an excellent three-dimensional repre-

sentation before your very eyes. You can move in four directions while they dodge and weave in front of you.

The effects — both sound and vision — are most realistic, and the game can even make you feel motion sick if you play it for long enough.

After the annihilation of each wave, you have to dock with the mother ship before the next wave

appears.

Look out for the Tardis as you manoeuvre, and don't shoot the Doctor (he doesn't score anyway!).

instructions	80%
playability	100%
graphics	100%
value for money	100%



Brain Damage Spectrum £5.95

Silversoft, London House, 271/273 King St, London W6

Brain Damage is a rather weird game, similar to the 'tanks' level in the arcade game Tron.

You have to wander around many levels of mazes, shooting up many different types of alien.

The action all takes place inside the brain of the computer, from what I can work out, and, in the style of Imagine and Ultimate, there is a witty little introduction to set the scene.

For example, the first line reads: "I was just hanging around, on standby as it were, logic levels at an all time low, my printed circuit bored — my keys depressed. Then you came along".

Brings tears to your eyes, doesn't it? The game itself is rather good, actually. Smooth colour graphics and effective use of sound help no end.

It took me a while to get used to the controls, my firing wasn't brilliant and I couldn't get past the third level.

This game takes some skill to play, not just another fire-like-mad-and-you-might-make-the-twenty-seventh-level game. P.S.

instructions	87%
playability	95%
graphics	90%
value for money	91%



Robopods TI-99/4A £6.95

Virgin Games, 61/63 Portobello Road, London W11

An alien spaceship has descended to earth and has beamed down the dreaded Robopods with the intention of destroying our beloved planet.

You are assigned the task of deactivating the fiendish machines before they self-destruct and blow the whole shooting match to kingdom come.

The pods are rendered harmless by climbing up inside them from underneath, but there are a few snags which tend to make life far from simple.

The robopods are all numbered and they must be deactivated in numerical order.

As you make your panic-stricken way from one pod to another, you leave a trail of radio-

active footprints which spell certain death if you pass back over your tracks.

As if that wasn't enough, the ground between each pod is littered with landmines laid by the alien spacecraft.

Stay in one spot for too long, and the pods will blow up anyway.

The only assistance you get is an occasional mat placed over part of your previously-laid trail, enabling you to cross your path.

There are five levels of difficulty.

Robopods is a good, well-programmed game with excellent graphics and sound. I found it very entertaining.

instructions	90%
playability	80%
graphics	90%
value for money	90%



Star Trek 3,000 48K Spectrum £4.95

dk'ironics, 23 Sussex Road, Gorleston, Gt. Yarmouth, Norfolk

It would be nice if Scotty could beam you up when you hit a bad patch, but that is one of the few options not allowed in this full

version of the old 'Star Trek' favourite.

If you do something silly, all you get is old pointy ears saying "I am sorry Captain, but your order seems illogical — it must be the stress".

There are plenty of stress moments, flying a starship by the instruments and view on space provided by the scanners, especially when the Klingons are closing in.

I panicked so much, I actually drove the Enterprise into a star — didn't 'alf upset Spock.

A Help function is provided to itemise the numerous orders to the onboard computer — very helpful, I used it a lot.

With practice, I believe you could become quite adept at controlling the ship and perhaps somewhere in the program, there might be a compliment from Spock waiting to get out!

All in all, a competent rendering of a classic game which gives a good impression of how one imagines it would be like, running a starship from the inside. M.B.

instructions	95%
playability	95%
graphics	90%
value for money	90%



Bitmania Commodore 64 plus Joystick £6.95

Virgin Games, 61 Portobello Road, London W12

This game is hopeless.

The instructions rabbit on about neuron flows through the Commodore 64 and other such silliness. The game itself is nothing to shout about, and involves a tiny Space Invaders-type of laser base shooting at dots that come whizzing down the screen.

The screen is cluttered by these "neurons" that travel down the screen messing up the display.

The sound is boring, and the graphics are unimaginative and plain.

Apart from this there is not much to say, as the game is very

simple.

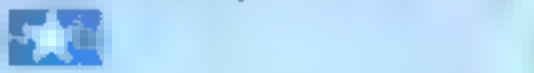
The instructions are to Virgin's usual high standard of packaging.

In this day and age, programs like this are just not on — the software-buying public has come to expect more.

Virgin has done better, so why does it have to push this on to the market?

With its flashy packaging and colour pictures on the inlay card, it will undoubtedly sell, but when you see the program working — what a let-down.

instructions	70%
playability	50%
graphics	10%
value for money	1%



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The price includes the modem, ZX81 and Spectrum software on cassette, connection cable and operating instructions, with a 12 month guarantee.

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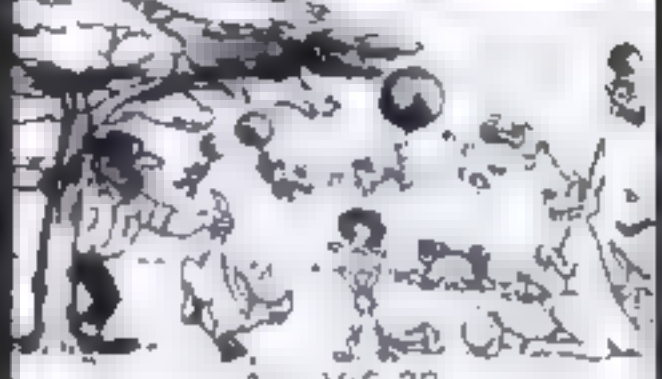
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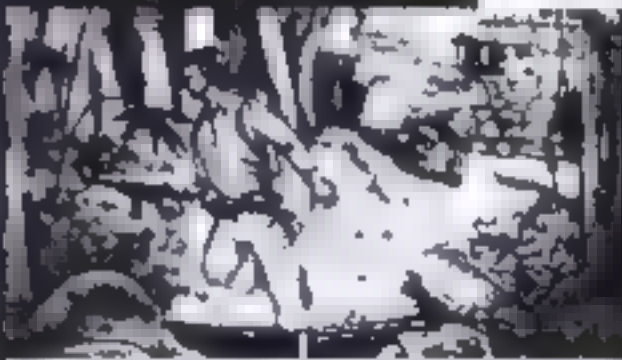
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How quickly can you think?

Fizzbuzz is a simple game which tests your mental agility.

All you have to do is to count from 1 to 100, rather rapidly. That sounds easy enough, but each time you come to a number that contains a 5 or is divisible by 5 (such as 25 or 56) you must say fizz instead.

And each number that contains a 7 or is divisible by 7 you replace with buzz.

If a number qualifies for both (such as 35 or 57), then you say fizzbuzz.

The program, which is written in ZX81 BASIC, keeps track of the score, but doesn't give you long to think.

So RUN the program, press NEW LINE to start, and . . . if you want your next go to be a number, press 1. If you want fizz, press 2, buzz 3, and fizzbuzz 4.

If all is well, the program prints your answer, and goes on. If not, you get two asterisks, the right answer, and straight on to the next go.

If you get really good, you can shorten the response time in line 170. Or if you get in a complete tangle, you can allow yourself longer.

When you are getting on top of 5 and 7 you can change them; try replacing 5 with 3 in lines 20, 410 and 440.

Ever played the party game Fizzbuzz? Now Peter Scott has written a version that you can play against your ZX81



Main variables
 N\$ stores the current number
 S the score
 A\$ the answer suggested by the player
 N dummy, used in calculating whether a number is divisible by, or contains, 5 or 7
 Z dummy
 X, Y record whether a number is divisible by, or contains, 5 or 7

How it works
 10-100 give instructions, and print the title
 110-120 initialise the variables N\$, S
 130-160 calculate whether the number is divisible by, or contains, 5 or 7 by calling subroutines 400 and 500. The result is stored in Y; 1 for neither, 2 for 5, 3 for 7, and 4 for both
 170-200 reads the player's input, and decides whether it is correct; it prints two asterisks if not
 210-250 keeps the score, and prints the correct answer
 260-280 increases N\$ by one, checks for the end of the game, and recycles back to 130
 400-460 is a subroutine which checks whether N\$ is divisible by, or contains, 5
 500-560 does the same for 7
 600 prints the score out of 100



```

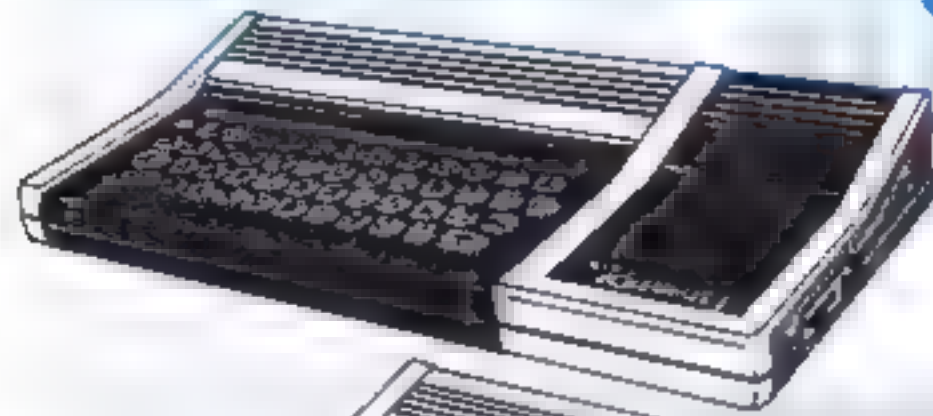
10 PRINT AT 3,11; "FIZZBUZZ"
20 PRINT AT 6,0; "SCORE = "; TAB
24; " "
30 PRINT "PRESS 1 FOR A NUMBER
40 PRINT "
46 PRINT "
50 PRINT "
60 PRINT "
70 PRINT "N/L TO START"
80 INPUT N$
90 CLS
100 PRINT AT 0,11; "FIZZBUZZ"

130 LET N$="1"
140 LET S=0
170 GOSUB 400
180 LET Y=X
190 GOSUB 500
200 LET Y=Y+X
220 PRUSE 150
230 LET A$=INKEY$
240 IF A$="" THEN LET A$="5"
250 IF VAL A$<>Y THEN PRINT "
    
```

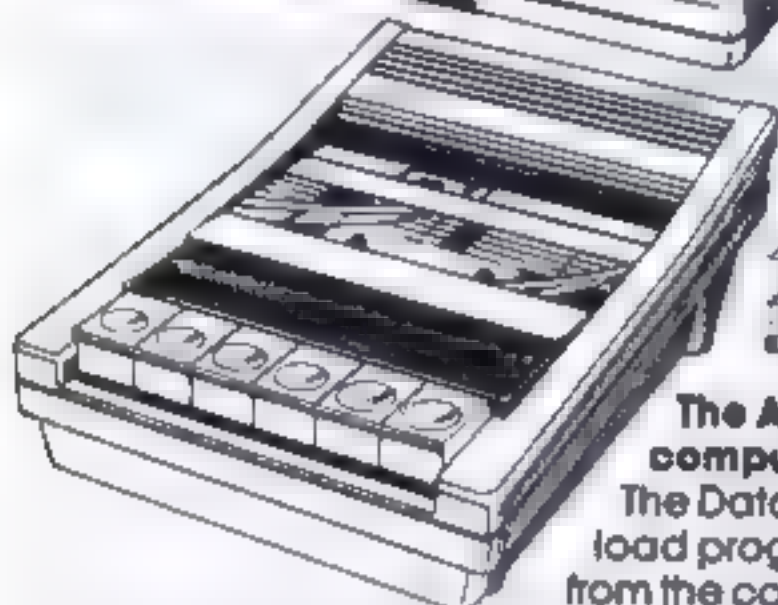
```

260 IF VAL A$=Y THEN LET S=S+1
270 PRINT N$
280 IF Y=1 THEN PRINT "FIZZ"
290 IF Y=2 THEN PRINT "BUZZ"
300 IF Y=3 THEN PRINT "FIZZBUZZ"
310 IF Y=4 THEN PRINT "FIZZBUZZ"
320 LET N$=STR$(VAL N$+1)
330 IF N$="101" THEN GOTO 600
340 GOTO 160
400 LET X=1
410 LET N$=(VAL N$)/5
420 IF N$=INT N$ THEN LET X=2
430 FOR Z=1 TO LEN N$
440 IF N$(Z)="5" THEN LET X=2
450 NEXT Z
460 RETURN
500 LET X=0
510 LET N$=(VAL N$)/7
520 IF N$=INT N$ THEN LET X=2
530 FOR Z=1 TO LEN N$
540 IF N$(Z)="7" THEN LET X=2
550 NEXT Z
560 RETURN
600 PRINT AT 21,0; "SCORE = "; S;
/100
    
```

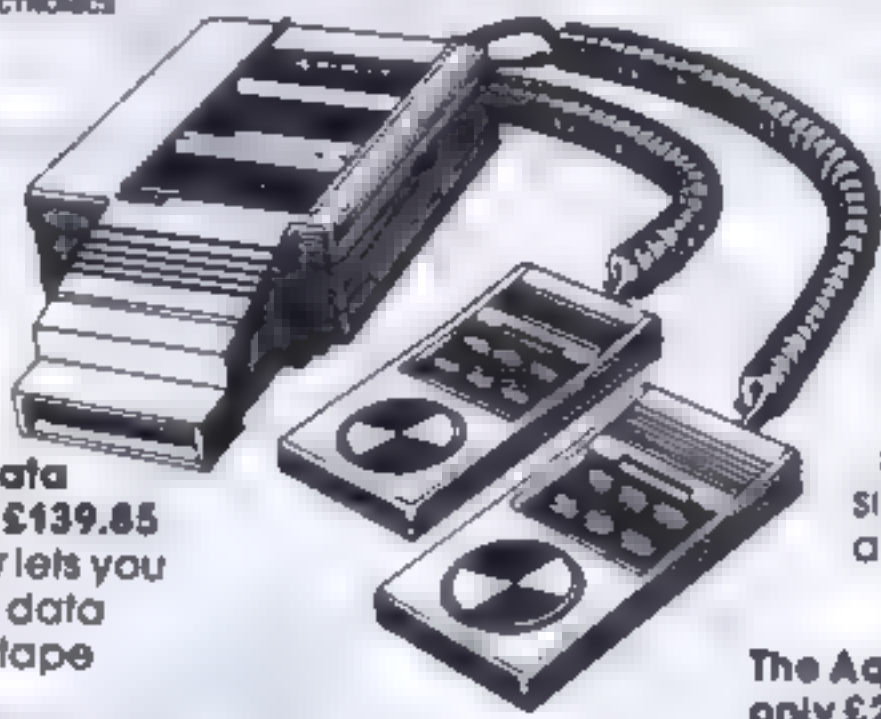
This is the dawning of the age of Aquarius – and your computer christmas.



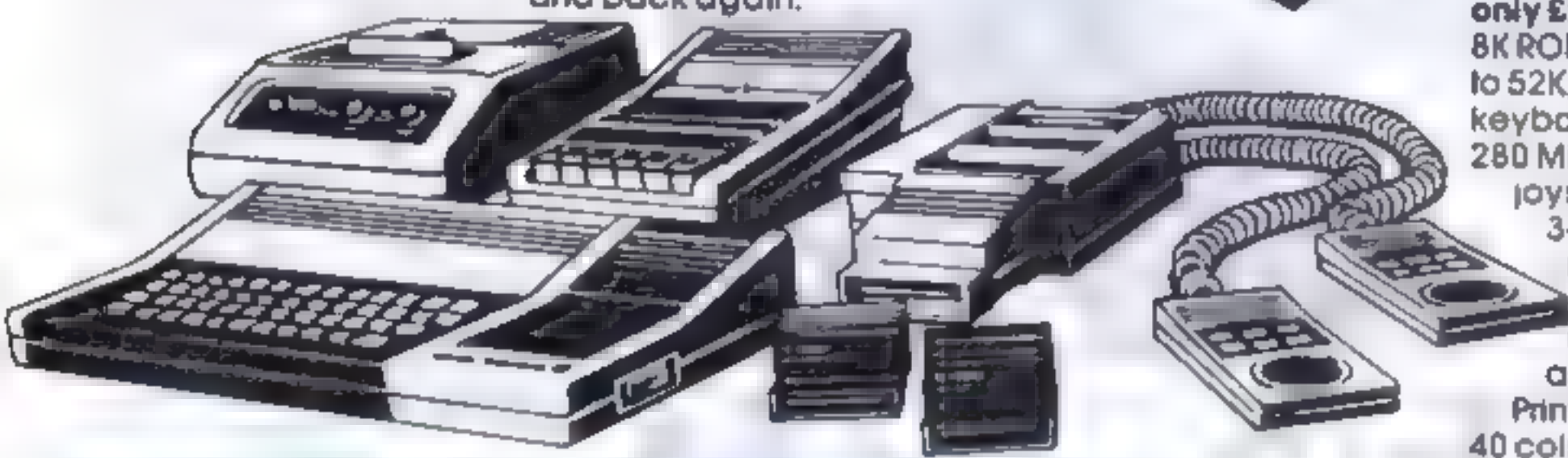
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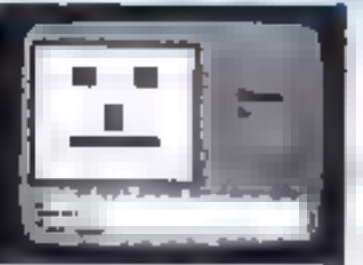


Lock n' Chase
 Rob the bank, dodge the cops

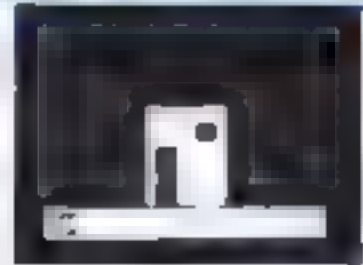


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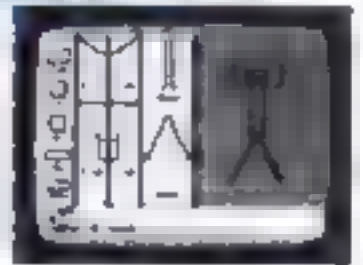
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SPECTRUM PROGRAMS

Escape the Apeman — and outshoot the outlaws

Here are two games that will fit into any Spectrum. They are both written by C. C. Stock, who explains how to play

Apeman

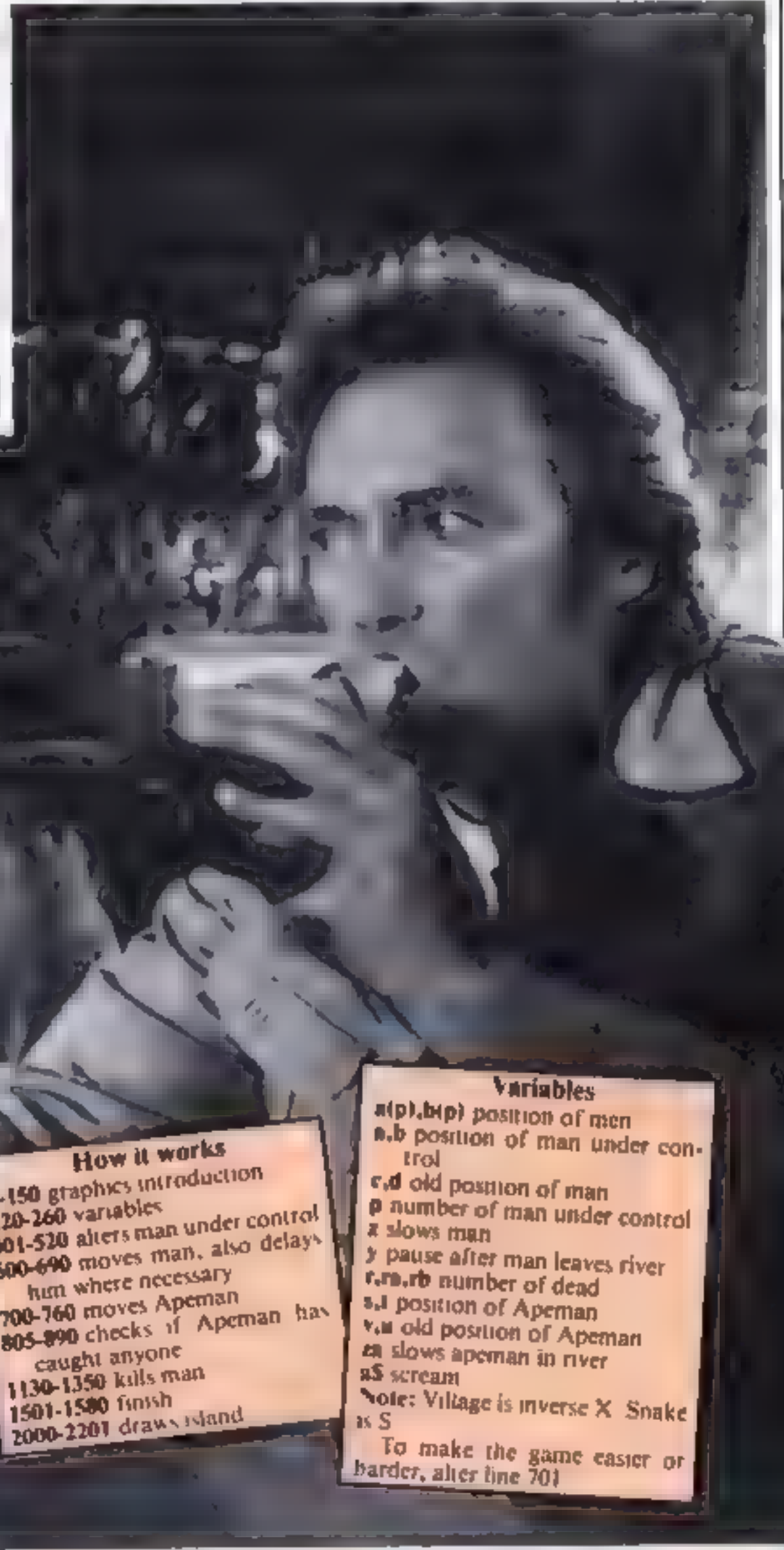
Shipwrecked on the wrong side of Apeman's island, the 15 survivors must cross the island to the safety of the village.

But Apeman is enraged by their presence on his land and is after them.

You must guide the survivors

across the island three at a time, across the marshlands, through the bush and across the river.

You are faster than the Apeman in the open, but slower through the bush and across the marshland. The river will wash you down stream and maybe out to sea. Beware of the snakes.



How it works

5-150 graphics introduction
220-260 variables
301-520 alters man under control
600-690 moves man, also delays him where necessary
700-760 moves Apeman
805-890 checks if Apeman has caught anyone
1130-1350 kills man
1501-1580 finish
2000-2201 draws island

Variables

a(p),b(p) position of men
a,b position of man under control
c,d old position of man
p number of man under control
z slows man
y pause after man leaves river
r,ra,rb number of dead
s,l position of Apeman
v,m old position of Apeman
za slows apeman in river
a\$ scream
Note: Village is inverse X Snake
as S
To make the game easier or harder, alter line 701

Outlaws

So you think you're fast with a gun. But are you fast enough? Red Jake and his gang of five outlaws are out to get you.

You enter the town from the west, slowly staking along the streets. You see your first man to your right. He turns. You turn

The first shots are fired

There are five controls. 5 turns left. 6 turns round. 7 moves forward. 8 turns right. 0 shoots.

As you wander round the streets, you will only see the outlaws in the same street as yourself. The outlaws are randomly repositioned to make it harder.

How it works

130-140 turn the lawman left or right, and line 160 draws the right man
200-298 check to see if any outlaws are in view and then print them
300-380 turn the outlaws to face you if necessary and then shoot

Variables

k no of dead outlaws
y,x position of lawman
a,b direction of lawman
a\$ contains man
a(n),b(n) position of outlaws
C(n),d(n) direction of outlaws
e(n) delays outlaws one move
s no of shots left

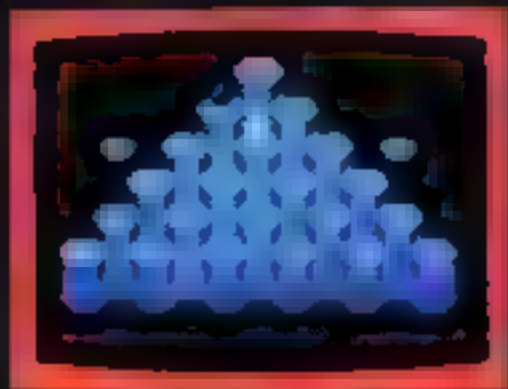
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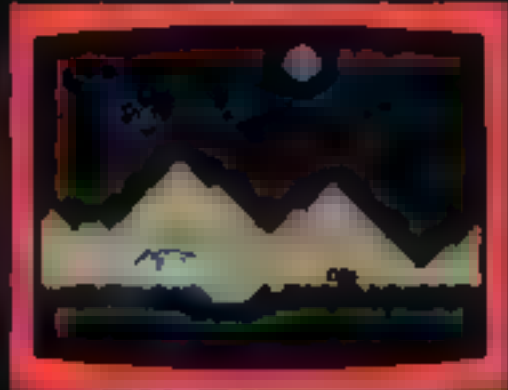
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Mysterious Adventures

WHAT ARE MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES?

MYSTERIOUS: (Adjective):- "Baffling, full of mystery, strange or unaccountable".

ADVENTURE: (Noun):- "An interesting full of risk and danger, an experience of unforeseen events endangering the participants life, a gamble on failure or success".

To start playing a MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURE is to take a step out of the world of reality and into the world of fantasy. Your computer screen depicts a new fantastical world in time and space where danger is ever present and so other problems seldom come easy.

By typing in simple commands in plain English you can make your computer do anything and tell it what your next actions are to be.

MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES bring a lot of interesting situations in which you will find yourself. You will become involved in these strange and twisted situations in which you will be required to do things seem to be impossible against you. You will find that when you overcome obstacles that are seemingly insurmountable you will be rewarded as you reach the climax of your mission and success is yours.

As MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURE is not a mission to be taken for its success will never be stated as there was no failure. You may save a game at any time. To complete a session of a MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURE you may become involved in each of the Adventures. This is a system that at any given time in the game you may save your status or save your inventory elsewhere. You may print out a record of any other pertinent data as to only your present status.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES

Over the past few years Adventure programs in general have become a vast sea of text only programs. For most Adventure games this has been due to the fact that they prefer to use text. The amount of imagery generated by such an approach is limited only by the users imagination. One of the main reasons for the text only approach has been the lack of hardware capabilities with early computers. Personal Adventures could at best be only very limited in scope.

This situation is changing now however and Brian Howarth, author of the MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES series, has spent many hours incorporating Graphics into the Adventures. By working in close conjunction with Jon Blacow, a professional Artist, Brian has produced a series of extremely vivid and interesting Adventures. Each MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURE now features in addition to the text description of the game, a colour current location and surrounding maps. As you enter each new location a high resolution colour picture is drawn. The effect of this is to bring much more reality to the scenario. You can at a time see the scenery you are faced with and so accordingly it must be stressed that each picture has been designed so that it will enhance rather than conflict with your mental imagery. At the single stroke of a key you can erase the picture and display only your Adventure text if this is your preference. We are confident that newer Adventure programs will use such high quality graphics and imagery in conjunction with the flexibility and ease of play that have made MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES such a phenomenal worldwide success.

In addition the Adventures now feature full sentence descriptions as standard. This means that you are no longer restricted to entering single or two word commands. You can now enter whole sentences, more or less paragraph if you wish. Your computer will happily accept the sentences and perform a whole string of commands. Just another feature designed to maximise your enjoyment of these world beating games!



The "New style" MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES are currently available for the 48K SPECTRUM, COMMODORE 64. More releases are planned this year which will include DRAGON 32, ORIC-1, APPLE II & IIe, ATARI, LYNX, MATTEL AQUARIUS, IBM PC etc. Please write or phone for availability.

Mind the doors as you try to bag the gold

This game was written on the ZX81, but with the Spectrum in mind. The program will run on both computers as it stands, but with a little thought many improvements can be made for the Spectrum — colour, sound, UDG for character (0 in the listing) etc

The idea is simple, move from the bottom of the screen up through the grid to collect the treasure at the top (perhaps a UDG on the Spectrum?)

Meanwhile your presence on

Hints on conversion

I specifically wrote this game using standard characters in order to enable conversion. A few other points to note:

DIM FS (6,32) most BASICs accept and require only DIM FS(6), the 32 is the length of each element and is the length of the Sinclair screen. You will need: LET FS(6) = "32 spaces" added to your program

INT (RND*20+6) produces a random number between 6 and 25

Line 90 Most BASICs need LET MIDS (FS(I),INT (RND*20+6),1)

INKEYS lines 400/410: probably need to replace by a previous line GS=INKEYS and as Sinclairs return 1 for true and 0 for false, you may have to change the signs if your machine returns -1 for true. Also statements "IF L" may have to be written in full (if L (greater than, less than) 0 etc.) Note: AS needs to have as many characters as FS(6) — 32 in listing — pad out with extra spaces

L.425 replace AS (X1+1) with MIDS(AS,X1+1,1)

L.440 replace FS statement by MIDS(FS(INT((Y1+1)/3)),X1+1,1) Print at Y,X. Positions print at row Y, column X

Variables

A(17) holds present position of the "door" on each line
FS(6,32) 1-5 are the grid lines . 6 is 32 spaces to wipe a line
HS high score

Treasure can be yours unless you're trapped by the doors. Ray Elder's game is for both the ZX81 and Spectrum. He includes tips to enhance the program for the Spectrum

the floor may trigger the doors which close in on you. Speed and planning are necessary to achieve the highest score. I tried to create

a simple but interesting game — I hope you enjoy it
 keys are Z/X for left and right and K/M for up and down

```

1 REM *****
2 REM * SALVAGE *
3 REM *****
5 GO SUB 3000
7 REM *****
8 REM * INITIALISE *
9 REM *****
10 DIM A(17)
20 DIM FS(6,32)
30 LET HS=0
40 LET C=31
50 LET B=0
60 LET S=0
70 FOR I=1 TO 5
80 LET FS(I)="*****"
*****
90 LET FS(I,INT (RND*20+6))="

100 NEXT I
110 LET Y=17
115 LET T=0
120 LET X=1
130 LET AS=""          E E E E E E
E E E E
140 LET A(1)=-1
150 FOR I=2 TO 14 STEP 3
160 LET A(I)=-1
170 LET A(I+1)=B
180 LET A(I+2)=C
190 NEXT I
200 LET A(17)=-1
210 LET Z=0
287 REM *****
288 REM * SCREEN *
289 REM *****
290 CLS
300 PRINT "SCORE= ", S, "HI-SCORE
= "; HS, AS
310 FOR I=1 TO 5
320 PRINT FS(I)
330 PRINT TAB B; ">", TAB C, " *"; T
TAB B; " *"; TAB C; "<"
340 NEXT I
350 PRINT AT Y,X; "0"
397 REM *****
398 REM * PLAYER MOVE *
399 REM *****

```

How it works

5 GOSUB for instructions
 10-60 set initial values of variables
 70-100 for each array 1-5 of FS set it to 32 "stars", then replace one, at random, with a space
 110-130 more variables
 140-200 set each element of A 10 - 1 if FS row, or 0 or 31 for "door" position
 210 zero flag
 290 clear screen (Spectrum set BORDER/PAPER/INK colours?)
 300-350 draw screen
 400-410 see if key is being pressed and, if so, store next position in Y1 or X1
 420 if you have returned with some goodies GOTO 1000
 425 if you have reached the goods, GOSUB 1500
 430 if you are on line one GOTO 460
 435 L = 1 if an FS line, 0 if other position
 440 if not at a space on FS line, GOTO 600
 445 if all OK GOTO 460
 450 L = flag for position
 455 check to prevent movement into a 'prods' tail
 460 if no move has been made jump to 600 — this prevents flickering
 470 wipe old character, print in new position
 480-490 update X and Y to new position
 600 if on FS line GOTO start of main loop Also 1 in 5 chance of moving door (change .8 to give more or less frequent movements)
 610-630 move appropriate 'door' one place to left or right
 640 if character hit GOTO 2000
 650 update new position to A(Y)
 660 GOTO main loop
 1000 if complete set of items salvaged GOTO 1080
 1010 move character, print message
 1020-1040 update score, zero flag
 1050-1070 GOSUB pause, wipe, then continue
 1080-1140 give a bonus for clearing sheet, reset variables, GOTO draw new sheet
 1200-1230 pause, wipe line 18, return

ZX81 AND SPECTRUM PROGRAM

```

455 IF (A(YI) >= XI AND L) OR (A(
YI) <= XI AND NOT L) THEN GO TO 60
460 IF X=XI AND Y=YI THEN GO TO
600
470 PRINT AT Y,X," ",AT YI,XI;"
"
480 LET X=XI
490 LET Y=YI
597 REM *****
598 REM * PRODD MOVE *
599 REM *****
600 IF A(Y)=-1 OR AND<.8 THEN G
O TO 400
610 LET E=(Y/3=INT (Y/3))
620 LET D=A(Y)+E-(E-0)
630 PRINT AT Y,A(Y);"*";AT Y,D;
(" <" AND NOT E)+(">" AND E)
640 IF D=XI OR D=X THEN GO TO 20
00
650 LET A(Y)=D
660 GO TO 400
997 REM *****
998 REM * SUCCESS *
999 REM *****
1000 IF A$=F$(6) THEN GO TO 1080
1010 PRINT AT Y,X;" ",AT YI,XI,"
",AT 18,0,"WELL DONE : SCORE ="
1020 LET S=S+100
1030 PRINT S,AT 0,6,S
1040 LET Z=0
1050 GO SUB 1200
1070 GO TO 480
1080 PRINT AT 18,0,"BONUS +1000"
1090 LET S=S+1100
1100 PRINT AT 0,6,S
1110 GO SUB 1200
1120 LET B=1
1130 LET C=30
1140 GO TO 110
1200 FOR I=1 TO 50

```

```

1210 NEXT I
1220 PRINT AT 18,0,F$(6)
1230 RETURN
1497 REM *****
1498 REM * £ ROUTINE *
1499 REM *****
1500 IF Z=1 THEN LET XI=X
1510 IF Z=1 THEN RETURN
1520 LET A$(XI+1)=" "
1530 LET Z=1
1550 RETURN
1997 REM *****
1998 REM * CRUSHED *
1999 REM *****
2000 FOR I=1 TO 20
2010 PRINT AT Y,X,"*",AT Y,X,"0"
,AT Y,X;"X"
2020 NEXT I
2030 PRINT AT 18,0;"SQUASHED...
PRESS A KEY TO PLAY"
2040 IF S<=HS THEN GO TO 2070
2050 PRINT "A NEW HI-SCORE ";S
2060 LET HS=S
2070 IF INKEY$="" THEN GO TO 204
0
2080 GO TO 40
3000 >CLS
3010 PRINT TAB 12;"RESCUE."
3020 PRINT AT 3,0,"MOVE YOUR MAN
- O -UP THE SCREEN TO RESCUE THE
BAGS OF GOLD."
3040 PRINT AT 8,0,"KEYS Z TO M
OVE LEFT",TAB 7,"X TO MOVE RIGHT
",TAB 7,"K TO MOVE UP",TAB 7;"M
TO MOVE DOWN"
3050 PRINT AT 16,0,"BEWARE OF TH
E MOVING PRODS WHICHARE SLOWLY C
LOSSING IN ON YOU."
3060 PRINT AT 21,4,"PRESS ANY KE
Y TO PLAY"
3070 IF INKEY$="" THEN GO TO 307
0
3080 RETURN

```

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	FX800 F/T	430
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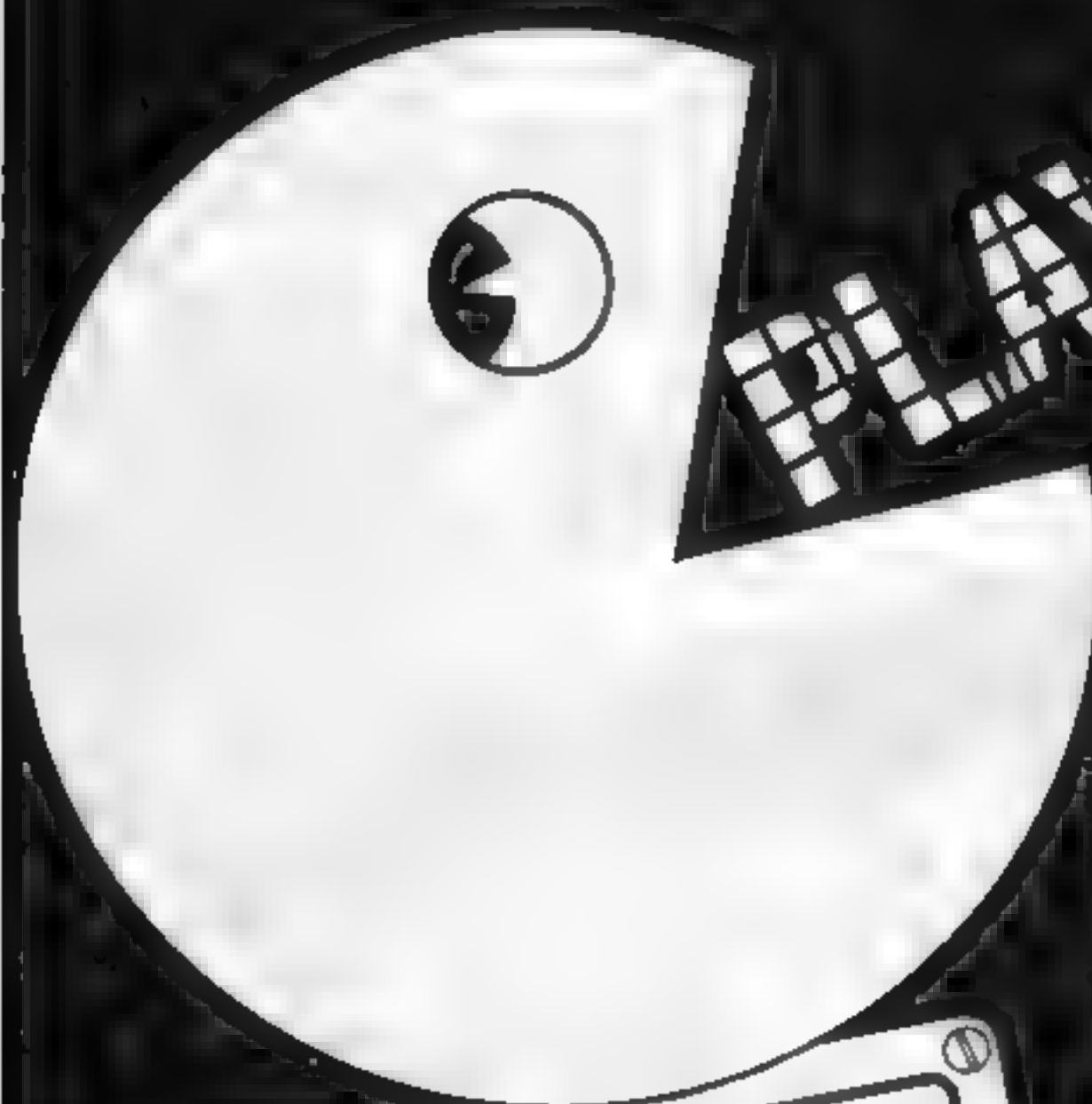
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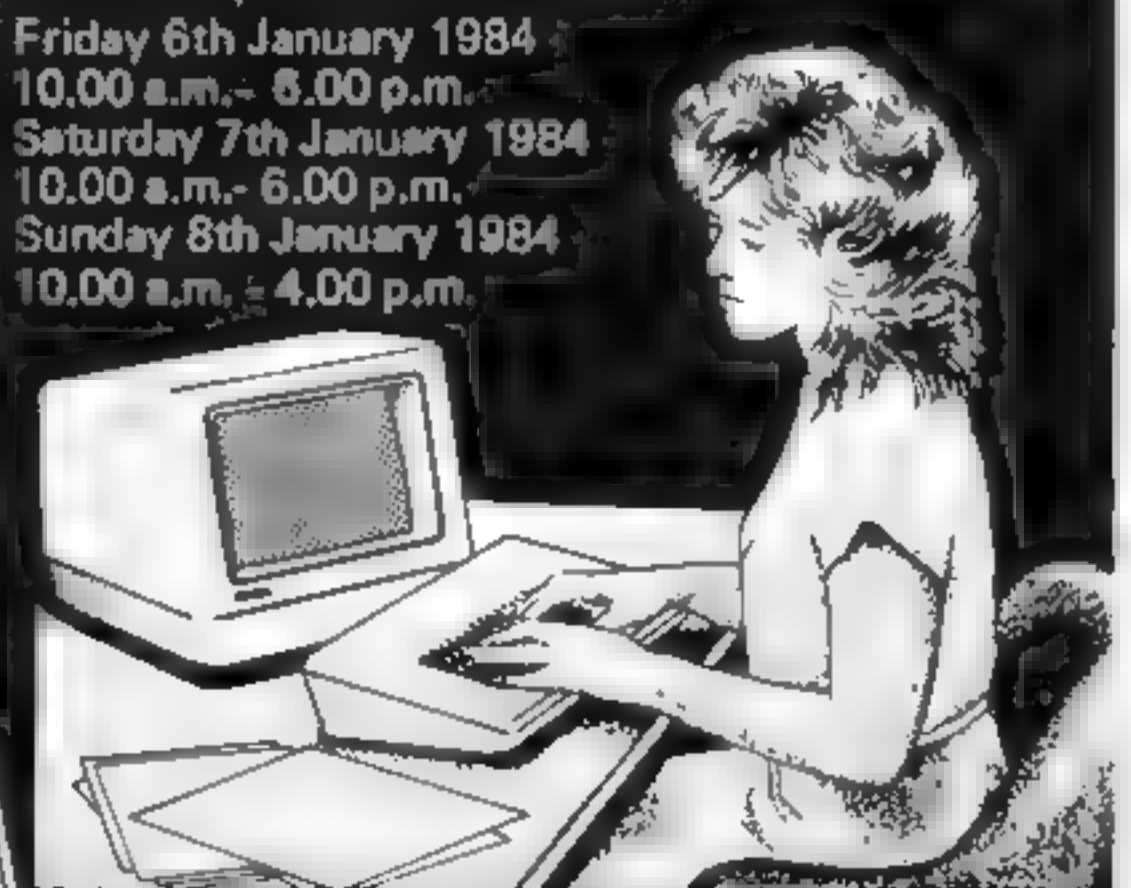
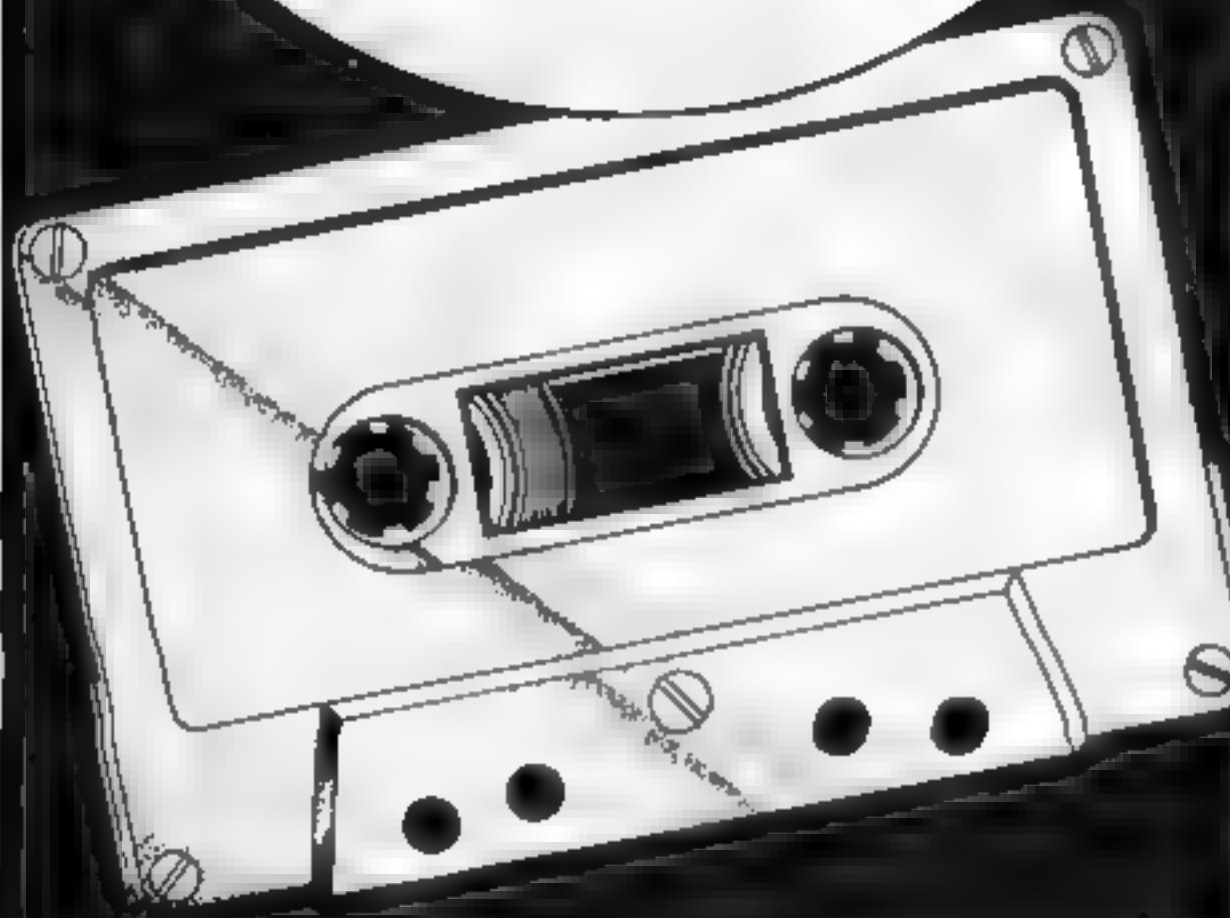


PLAY ALL DAY! JANUARY 6th 7th 8th

January 6th 7th 8th are the dates when you can play all day with the very latest in software on the very best computers, including Atari, Vic 20 and 64, ZX plus Spectrum, Oric, Dragon and BBC A & B. All will be on display at The London Home Computer Show! Once again the emphasis will be on the lower end of the price bracket, with computers from £50 up to £300.

Play all day, try or buy it's all there at the greatest home computer show on earth!

Friday 6th January 1984
10.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.
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Admission Adults £2.50
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THE LONDON HOME COMPUTER SHOW

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**Memory Game
Oric £3.95**

Stour Computing, 16 Old Bridge Road, Bournemouth

A version of the familiar Pairs or Pelmanism game, usually played with a pack of cards.

Twelve symbols are secretly plotted over a grid on the screen and the players, up to four of whom can take part, take turns in selecting positions.

The symbols at the chosen pair of positions are briefly revealed and re-hidden if they do not match.

Since there are 48 positions the maximum number of pairs is 24, and a point is awarded for successful choice.

The 48K version has an attractive jingle not available on the 16K and, slightly more important, it also has instructions. However, 16K owners who

couldn't figure out how to play the game probably wouldn't get as far as loading the program in the first place.

Having said that, I had some difficulty in loading the 48K version, but once that had been mastered, I found the program was clearly presented and attractively laid out.

Nine of the 12 symbols are re-defined characters — why were the other three left unattended to?

Simple, but fun, this game would appeal to the younger members of the family. **P.S.W.**

instructions	75%
playability	65%
graphics	65%
value for money	70%



**Puzzler
Dragon 32
£6.95**

Shards Software, 189 Eton Road, Bford, Essex IG1 2UQ

This game is like a cross between the sliding block puzzles we used

to keep in our pockets and jigsaws with straight edged pieces!

The aim is to reconstruct a picture from the jumbled pieces. There are three programs in the pack and four pictures in each program, so there is a good gradual difficulty gradient. Each puzzle can also be played in set numbers of moves and against the clock.

If you decide to play against the clock, then a slow move means that a random exchange is made. This can undo some of your previous good work and makes the program that much more interesting.

Beyond that there is very little to say. It works well enough and the pictures are acceptable but not thrilling.

If mental geometry is your thing, then it might be for you —

otherwise, buy a jigsaw	D.C.
instructions	60%
ease of use	70%
graphics	70%
value for money	50%



**White Knight
MK II
32K BBC £11.50**

BBC Software, 35 Marylebone High Street, London W1M 4AA

Is another chess program really necessary? The answer for White Knight is an unequivocal yes — I think it will soon become the program by which all others are judged.

No less than 16 different options are available to allow you to select speed and playing features. Tournament rules can be set up, as can clock time, orientation (black or white), and difficulty (i.e. how long the computer will 'think').

Speed of 'thought' can actually be set from between 1 second and several hours.

If all these options are not enough, White Knight also dis-

plays details of its thought processes, giving insight into strategy.

In my opinion, the program played an interesting and challenging game — so challenging that I decided to let it play against Sargon II running on my Apple II.

Most impressively, White Knight beat level 1 Sargon, playing white, after 60 moves. Perhaps I'll let it play itself with invisible pieces (more options!).

	P.D.
instructions	90%
ease of use	90%
playability	99%
value for money	80%



**Gangsters!
48K Spectrum
£6**

Cases Computer Simulations, 14 Langton Way, London SE3 7TL

I have seen quite a few version of kingdoms in my time, but Gangsters has to be my favourite. The first time I played it only took me 11 months to take over the underworld. Great.

The idea of the game is that you are the leader of a new gang in town and with the capital you are given at the start of the game you must take over, and eventually become master of the underworld.

You can buy such appealing things as speakases, brothels and distilleries. With these establishments you make your income. This can then be either used to

buy more speakases etc, or used as bribes and payments for contracts.

The game uses excellent sound and graphics throughout, especially for a game which is not normally associated with all the whizzes and bangs you would find in an arcade game.

For example, it starts with the screen being shot with bullet holes, accompanied by some pretty effective, and obviously machine code, sound.

The game itself is written in BASIC, but it runs perfectly well. I have only found one bug so far — if you enter the amount of gangsters you want to hire as zero (which it accepts), then the game gets caught in endless loops. **P.S.**

instructions	85%
playability	100%
graphics	90%
value for money	99%



**It's Only
Rock 'n Roll
48K Spectrum
£6.95**

K'Tel, 620 Western Avenue, London W3

Already a big name in selling records and gadgets, K-Tel is now jumping on to the software bandwagon.

But this is a bad start — and anyone joining a sophisticated market needs to make a strong opening bid.

The challenge to become a star lost attraction after one or two plays. For a program based on pop music a machine with synthesiser ability is needed, say BBC or Commodore.

The Spectrum cannot do much to provide sound in the concert highlights graphics sequence, which is a waste of time and

memory.

You must take decisions regarding song writing, management, concert tours, energy and cash expenditure.

You are swung between the options list, the consequences of your decision and odd newsflashes, which often appear to be of no consequence to your situation.

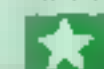
Can you make a million and collect three status symbols?

One of the least amusing

features is the attempted humour in the random composition of song lyrics — lavatory style laughs.

If you are intent on making a million then don't invest your first £7 in this. **P.C.**

instructions	50%
playability	20%
graphics	10%
value for money	10%



All that's new at the Microfair

Once again, we bring you the first full report of the latest ZX Microfair. Paul Liptrot went there



Denis Thatcher dreams of some of the characters in the new adventure *Denis Through the Drinking Glass*



Chris Monckton, proprietor of Chipmunk, claims you'll clean up at the casino with his *Blackjack* program



A new computer trolley from Young and Jones keeps all your computing gear tidy



Anne Galloway, 23, with the latest game from Lydenhurst, *De-Fusion*



Leslie Hartridge, "whizz-dad" and author of *Flippit*, with daughters Mary-Ann and Carol-Lynn

IT WAS a more relaxed Microfair this time because organiser Mike Johnston had extended it to two days.

So, although more than 11,000 people attended there was room to move in the aisles — unlike last time when 8,000 attended the one-day event.

It was held at north London's Alexandra Pavilion, which will also be the venue for the next Microfair on February 4.

There was lots of new software and a selection of new additions... plus more retailers than at earlier shows.

This last fact prompted software house CRL to abandon its booked stand

Managing director Clement Chambers said there was no point in staying when retailers were selling the same software as the manufacturers and, in some cases, undercutting prices.

But Mr Johnston, who is also secretary of the Guild of Software Houses, said he was not going to dictate who took stands, provided the shows offered the widest possible selection of additions and software.

In fact, he said, retailers could extend the range of software on show by displaying products from companies without stands.

"I would have liked him to have stayed since he booked and some people will have been disappointed. And if he can't undercut retailers..."

A lovable but dim St Bernard called Brandy was the inspiration for the first arcade game from Carnell, the software company best known for its adventures.

The *Adventures of St Bernard*, priced at £5.95 for the Spectrum, is based on director Stuart Galloway's dog. He said: "Brandy gave me the idea. He's as thick as two short planks."

In the game, programmed by Stephen Kirk, you guide Brandy past wolves, pools with ravenous walruses and skating penguins to rescue his mistress from the lair of the evil snowman

Carnell also launched *The Crypt* (£4.95, Spectrum) by co-director Roy Carnell, who wrote most of Carnell's other adventures. Two more which continue the theme are due next month

Denis Through the Looking Glass, a Spectrum adventure at £5.50, bears the warning: "Not recommended for children under 13."

It is based on our Prime Minister's husband and features figures like Ken Livingstone, Norman Tebbit, Mary Whitehouse, Tony Benn and the Pope with Dennis Skinner, voluble MP for Bolsover, as the guide.

Applications Roger Taylor explained: "There are a couple of

bawdy bits when he gets to Soho. But you will never solve it if you've got a dirty mind."

PSL showed a new light pen from Trojan designer Geoff Jones. Priced at £17.25 for the Spectrum, it can draw in hi-res with a choice of eight colours and screens can be saved from and loaded to the screen.

The company also had a new AbbeX game by 17-year-old Paul Reynolds. *Krakatoa* (£5.95, Spectrum) is part arcade, part strategy in which you have to stop a tanker being sunk. If you fail you must rescue survivors by helicopter.

Hisoft brought out Microdrive versions of Pascal (£25) and Devpac (£14), an assembler/disassembler. More comprehensive versions are promised next month and Hisoft says existing owners can upgrade at a small cost.

CDS has two new £5.95 games for the Spectrum: *Magic Meanies*, an arcade game which takes place underground, and *Spectrum Safari*, in which three men stranded on an island have to barter for food and boat.

The YOJO computer desk trolley was on display by Young and Jones Designs. Priced at £44.95 — with £4.95 for optional storage bin — it is supplied packed flat in beige and black painted steel. It holds computer, tape unit, TV, disc drives with power supply and cables kept out of sight.

David Husband's ZX81 FORTH ROM with multi-tasking replaces the ZX81's BASIC ROM and comes as a fit-it-yourself EPROM, with manual, at £25. It needs memory expansion and will work with 16K, 32K or 64K RAMpacks

Mr Husband says his FORTH is quicker than FIG-FORTH in most applications, being a compiler directive language which does not use the traditional inner-interpretive approach.

ZX81 FORTH matched FIG-FORTH standards, but not all FIG-FORTH words due to lack of memory. It contained some non-standard words for multi-tasking — up to 10 at a time which can be scheduled to execute from 50 times a second to once a year.

Ready converted ZX81s are available.

Mikro-Gen launched 13 new titles, bring its range up to 25. Among them is *Mad Martha II*, a sequel to its top-seller featuring a hen-pecked husband. Mikro-Gen's Paul Denial said *Pat the Postman*, which involves collecting parcels for a mail train, was good for children because "no-one kills anything."

Both cost £6.95.

A partnership of three teenagers, calling themselves Star-

SHOW REPORT

zone, showed their first product, an arcade game with the familiar-sounding name of Zaxxon (Spectrum, £5.50). But writer Nial Mardon, 15, said: "It's not the same as Zaxxon." The partnership, Tim Mardon (Nial's brother), David Cowell and Tim Lake, plan more software for the Spectrum and the BBC micro.

Add-On Electronics showed two new £5 Spectrum games: Chuckman, a maze game featuring bombs and pits, and a space fighter game called 3D Star Wars.

Master Tool Kit (£9.95) from OCP, adds new features to the Spectrum, including auto- and re-number, trace, clock and alarm, delete/copy, string search and substitute, 10 user defined keys and a separate character generator.

Nineteen new games were brought out by dk'Tronics — 12 for the Spectrum, five for the Commodore 64 and two for the VIC-20.

QuickSilva has Ultisynth 64, which turns the Commodore 64 into a music synthesiser for £14.95 and a version of its popular Mined Out for the Electron (£6.95).

New concepts in Spectrum joysticks, both costing £9.95, were shown by two separate companies — on adjoining stands. Both joysticks clamp onto the keyboard and depress the cursor keys and are produced by E.E.C. and Grant Design.

Artic had Earth Defence, in which you save a city from nuclear devastation, and the self-explanatory Snooker, both at £5.95 for the Spectrum.

The company also previewed a ladders game called Bear Bover in which your Teddy bear has to avoid the bover bears. Due out in a fortnight, it was written by 27-year-old Jon Ritman.

Gilsoft promised four new adventures next month, all written with its program called The Quill, which enables machine code adventures to be written without a knowledge of machine code.

A new joystick interface from Fox Electronics (£28.50) contains a CMOS RAM, powered by a trickle-charge battery, which can store the names of 16 games and the keyboard details for up to three months. It can also be used as a pseudo-ROM for regularly-used routines. The plug-in interface accepts Atari-type nine-pin joysticks.

Silversoft showed three new arcade games at £5.95 — Freez' Bees, Robot Riot and Sam Spade.

De-Fusion (£5.50, Spectrum) from Lydenhurst involves you in de-fusing a bomb, while avoiding skinheads' boots...

Dressed as Groucho Marx,



The Piman, Automata's character, is on a calendar, audio tape — and computer programs

director Mel Croucher lived up to Automata's image as software's joksters.

He was offering a Christmas deal which wasn't software at all. The £5 package consists of a C20 blank tape, a calendar featuring Automata's Piman character plus an audio tape of The Piman's Greatest Hits.

Recorded by Mel Croucher, the tracks include Computer Alphabet ("by Lurch, the office parrot"), Country Musac ("by Lady Clair Sinclive and the Bad Tastes") and the extended disco version of Pimania ("as recommended by leading South American torturers). Sound effects include a Sherman tank and Concorde.

New software from Automata includes Morris Meets the Bikers (£6, Spectrum) based on the Piman character's car and with a song called Leader of the Pac on the same tape; and Yahtzee (£5) which has Dragon and Spectrum versions on the same cassette.

Fantasy and Vortex launched sequels to earlier successes.

Doomsday Castle (£6.50, Spectrum) is an arcade-adventure which follows Fantasy's Pyramid.

And Android 2 (Spectrum, £5.95) is the follow-up by Vortex of Android 1.

Educational specialists Widgit brought out a three-program tape designed to help children of five-10 with logic and reasoning. Priced at £6.25 for the Spectrum, The Humpty Dumpty Mystery and Who Killed Cock Robin? was written by primary school deputy head Gordon Askew.

Leslie Hartridge, author of Flippit (Spectrum, £9.95) and proprietor of Lez Peranto, brought along daughters Mary-Ann, 17, and 14-year-old Carol-Lynn to help out on the stand. Mary-Ann had helped father in the early stages by typing in his listings.

Commenting on his age, Mr Hartridge, a 59-year-old teacher, said: "With all the whizz-kids around, why shouldn't there be some whizz-dads?"

Wargamers Red Shift showed a pre-production version of Nebula (£6.95, Spectrum) a strategy game of space conquest.

BJ (£5.95, Spectrum) will help you win at Blackjack when you play with real cards, claims author Chris Monckton, proprietor of Chipmunk. Mr

Monckton, who developed the program on an Osborne 1, said you learn as you watch the computer play. To bring some style to his stand, he was dressed in a dinner jacket...

Richard Shepherd, adventure specialists, showed its latest, Urban Upstart (£6.50, Spectrum), set in a town called Scarthorpe — "a town so tough even the dogs carry flick-knives."

Premier showed the first in a series of six tapes written by primary school teachers to encourage creative writing. Spacewreck (Spectrum, £4.50), generates an adventure after a space crash — selecting incidents at random. Premier offers a marking and assessment service of written work for £1.50 per program.

Where to find them

Exhibitors in order of appearance in article:

Carnell, North Weylands Industrial Estate, Molesey Rd, Hersham, Surrey

PSI, 52 Lumbury Rd, Luton, Beds LU3 2PL

Hisoft, 13 Gousetre, Cheddington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 0SR

CDs, 10 Westfield Ct, Tickhill, Doncaster, S Yorks DN11 9LA

Young & Jones, 10 Oak Rd, Clunfield, Portsmouth PO8 0LJ

David Husband, 2 Gorleston Rd, Brankston, Poole BH12 1NW

Mikro-Gen, 1 Devonshire Cott, London Rd, Bracknell, Berks

Starzone, 74 Watlington Rd, Shillingford, Oxford

Add-On Electronics, Units 2-4, Shire Hill Industrial Est, Saffron Walden, Essex

OCP, 4A High St, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks SL9 9OB

dk'Tronics, Unit 6, Shire Hill Industrial Est, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 3AQ

QuickSilva, 13 Palmerston Rd, Southampton SO1 1LL

E.E.C., 1 Whitehouse Ct, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks SL9 0DA

Grant Design, Bank House, Reepham, Norwich, Norfolk NR10 4JJ

Artic, Main St, Brandesburton, Driffield YO25 8RL

Gilsoft, 30 Hawthorn Rd, Bury, S Glamorgan, S Wales

Fox Electronics, 141 Abbey Rd, Basingstoke, Hants

Silversoft, 271-273 King St, London W6

Lydenhurst, 38 Ashley Rd, London N19

Automata, 27 Highfield Rd, Portsmouth PO4 9DA

Fantasy, Falconberg Lodge, 27A St Georges Rd, Cheltenham, Gloucs

Vortex, 280 Brookside Rd, Brooklands, Manchester M23 9HD

Widgit, 48 Durham Rd, London N2 9DT

Lez Peranto, distributed by Sinclair Research, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3BR

Red Shift, 12C Manor Rd, Stoke Newington, London N16 5SA

Chipmunk, 52A The Vale, London NW11

Richard Shepherd, Elm House, 23/25 Elmshott La, Slough, Berks

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Top Ten programs for the Spectrum

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 1 Chequered Flag | Psion (4) |
| 2 Atic Atac | Ultimate (7) |
| 3 The Pyramid | Fantasy (-) |
| 4 Ant Attack | Quicksilva (3) |
| 5 Kong | Ocean (2) |
| 6 Lunar Jetman | Ultimate (1) |
| 7 Manic Miner | Bug Byte (5) |
| 8 Splat | Incentive (10) |
| 9 Flight Simulation | Psion (8) |
| 10 Scrabble | Psion (-) |

Compiled by W.H.Smith. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

Top Ten programs for the ZX81

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1 Defender | Quicksilva (6) |
| 2 Scramble | Quicksilva (1) |
| 3 Asteroids | Quicksilva (7) |
| 4 Chess | Sinclair (5) |
| 5 Space Raiders | Sinclair (9) |
| 6 Fantasy Games | Sinclair (8) |
| 7 Invaders | Quicksilva (-) |
| 8 Inca Curse | Sinclair (-) |
| 9 ZX81 Forth | Sinclair (-) |
| 10 Maths/Geography | Sinclair (-) |

Compiled by Websters. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

Top Ten programs for the Dragon

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1 Mined Out | Quicksilva (3) |
| 2 Pettigrews Diary | Sherds (10) |
| 3 Night Flight | Salamander (-) |
| 4 Ring of Darkness | Wintersoft (1) |
| 5 Dragonfly II | Hewson (-) |
| 6 Gridrunner | Salamander (-) |
| 7 Champions | Peaksoft (5) |
| 8 Lionheart | Peaksoft (-) |
| 9 Frogger | Microdeal (6) |
| 10 Morocco Grand Prix | Microdeal (-) |

Compiled by Websters. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

Top Ten programs for the VIC-20

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Arcadia | Imagine (4) |
| 2 Wizard & the Princess | Melbourne House (1) |
| 3 Wacky Walters | Imagine (2) |
| 4 Laser Zone | Llamasoft (-) |
| 5 Matrix | Llamasoft (10) |
| 6 Gridrunner | Llamasoft (-) |
| 7 Skyhawk | Quicksilva (5) |
| 8 Sargon II | Commodore (-) |
| 9 Money Manager | Commodore (-) |
| 10 Panic | Bug Byte (3) |

Compiled by Websters. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

Top Ten programs for the Commodore 64

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1 Crazy Kong | Interceptor (8) |
| 2 Frogger | Interceptor (1) |
| 3 Laser Zone | Llamasoft (-) |
| 4 Spriteman | Interceptor (10) |
| 5 Motorman | Audiogenic (6) |
| 6 Purple Turtles | Quicksilva (2) |
| 7 Quintic Warrior | Quicksilva (4) |
| 8 Aquaplane | Quicksilva (9) |
| 9 Renaissance | Audiogenic (-) |
| 10 Caesar the Cat | Mirrorsoft (-) |

Compiled by Websters. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

BEST SELLERS

Top 30

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 Atic Atac | Ultimate | Spectrum (-) |
| 2 Lunar Jetman | Ultimate | Spectrum (7) |
| 3 Kong | Ocean | Spectrum (5) |
| 4 Jetpac | Ultimate | Spectrum (2) |
| 5 Manic Miner | Bug Byte | Spectrum (3) |
| 6 The Hobbit | M.House | Spectrum (4) |
| 7 Valhalla | Legend | Spectrum (1) |
| 9 Chuckie Egg | A&F | Spectrum (17) |
| 10 747 Flight Simulator | Doctorsoft | BBC |
| 11 Pool | CDS | Spectrum (16) |
| 12 Melbourne Draw | M House | Spectrum (-) |
| 13 Falcon Patrol | Virgin | CBM 64 (26) |
| 14 Ostron | Softek | Spectrum (-) |
| 15 Night Flight | Microdeal | Dragon (-) |
| 16 Killer Gorilla | Program Power | BBC (10) |
| 17 Trans-Am | Ultimate | Spectrum (8) |
| 18 Splat | Incentive | Spectrum (-) |
| 19 Cookie | Ultimate | Spectrum (9) |
| 20 Horace and the Spiders | Psion | Spectrum (13) |
| 21 The King | Microdeal | Dragon (18) |
| 22 Penetrator | M House | Spectrum (22) |
| 23 Hall of the Things | Crystal | Spectrum (14) |
| 24 Cuthbert in the Jungle | Microdeal | Dragon (15) |
| 25 Snooker | Arctic | Spectrum (-) |
| 26 Frankins Tomb | Salamander | Dragon (-) |
| 27 3D Dimension Destruction | Arctic | Spectrum (-) |
| 28 Crazy Painter | Microdeal | Dragon (-) |
| 29 Pssst | Ultimate | Spectrum (20) |
| 30 3D Combat Zone | Arctic | Spectrum (23) |

Compiled by PCS Distribution (0254 691211) and sanctioned by the Computer Trade Association. Chart is for retail sales in individual outlets in the UK and Northern Ireland for the fortnight ended December 4

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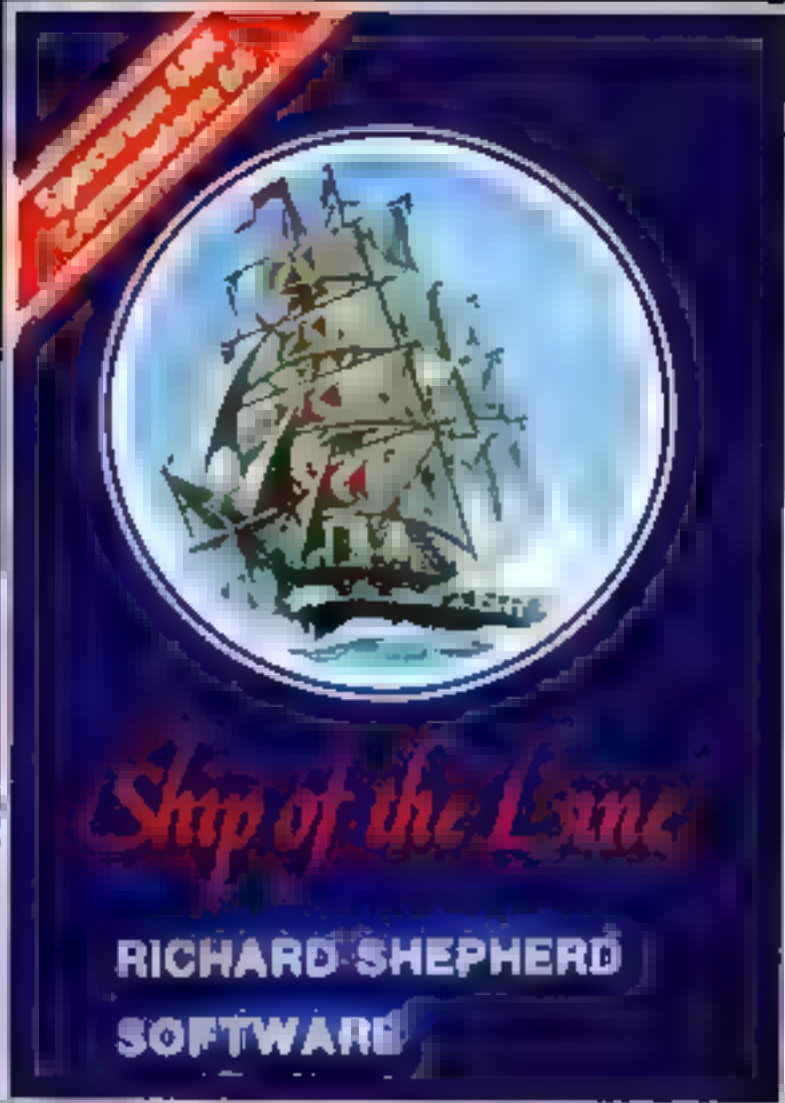

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The alien has landed — a scene from Xtro



What's this? Your scanner is telling you there's an alien landing craft approaching your base — and your experience tells you that it isn't planning a social visit.

You'd better move quickly to make sure that craft doesn't get control of the base. Use your joystick to move the base from side to side, and try to shoot the alien down with your missiles. But don't be too trigger happy, or you'll run out of missiles, and the game'll be over.

You get 10 points for each hit — and a new alien will start to make its way towards your base. How long can you fight them off?

Main variables

QW keeps score
A randomises alien position
F recognises if missile button is pressed
LI recognises if joystick is moved

How it works

100-240 print out instructions
250-390 define characters and colour
400-470 plot stars
480-660 move alien
670-730 move and fire
740-800 move left
810-870 move right
880-920 print laser
930-1060 out of missiles
1070-1160 print out score
1170-1290 end of game

Hints on conversion

CALL CLEAR clears the screen
CALL HCHAR (A,P,G) A = row, P = column, G = position ASCII character
CALL SCREEN (X) sets screen colour
CALL SOUND (N,V,G) N = length of note, V = frequency, G = volume
CALL KEY (N,V,G) N = console keyboard eg. call key (0,V,G)
V = recognises if key is pressed, G = recognises if same key is pressed

```

100 REM SPACE ALIEN
110 REM BY STEPHEN HARRIS
120 REM 1983
130 CALL CLEAR
140 CALL SCREEN(2)
150 FOR ZX=2 TO 16
160 CALL COLOR(ZX,16,1)
170 REM INSTRUCTIONS
180 NEXT ZX
190 PRINT "SPACE ALIEN"::"YOU CO
NTROL THE BASE"::"AT THE BOTTOM
OF THE SCREEN"::"BY USING THE JO
YST STICK. ":
200 PRINT "SHOOT DOWN THE ALIEN
AND"::"PREVENT IT FROM LANDING B
Y"::"PRESSING THE FIRE BUTTON":
210 PRINT "BUT BEWARE... YOU ONL
Y HAVE"::"A LIMITED AMOUNT OF MI
SSILES":
220 PRINT "SCORING=10 POINTS PER
HIT"::"NDW PRESS ANY KEY "
230 CALL KEY(0,TYU,UYT)
240 IF (TYU=0)+(TYU=-1) THEN 230
250 CALL CLEAR
260 REM DEFINE CHARACTERS AND
SET UP SCREEN
270 CALL COLOR(14,12,1)
280 CALL CHAR(159,"1818181818181
818")
290 CALL COLOR(16,16,1)
300 D=16
310 Z=2
320 CALL CHAR(139,"1CEE7DFD5FDF
7D")
330 CALL HCHAR(24,1,139,32)
    
```

T1-39/4A PROGRAM

```

340 CALL CHAR(42,"1818183C7EFFFF
5A")
350 CALL CHAR(127,"99C3A5FFE7423
C42")
360 CALL COLOR(2,7,1)
370 CALL COLOR(12,8,1)
380 CALL HCHAR(23,D,42)
390 CALL CHAR(149,"0000001000000
000")
400 REM PLOT STARS
410 FOR TU=1 TO 30
420 CALL COLOR(16,16,1)
430 KJ=INT(RND*32)+1
440 PI=INT(RND*24)+1
450 IF (PI=24)+(PI=23) THEN 440
460 CALL HCHAR(PI,KJ,149)
470 NEXT TU
480 REM MOVE ALIEN
490 A=INT(RND*30)
500 IF A>10 THEN 530 ELSE 510
510 A=2
520 GOTO 570
530 IF A>20 THEN 560 ELSE 540
540 A=16
550 GOTO 570
560 A=30
570 CALL HCHAR(Z,A,127)
580 CALL HCHAR(Z,A,32)
590 CALL SOUND(30,-1,0,110,0)
600 Z=Z+1
610 IF Z=23 THEN 620 ELSE 680
620 CALL HCHAR(23,D,127)
630 CALL SOUND(1000,-5,0,990,0)
640 PRINT "THE ALIEN HAS LANDED
ON YOUR BASE"
650 GOTO 1171
660 GOTO 680
670 REM MOVE AND FIRE
680 CALL KEY(1,F,G)
690 CALL COLOR(15,INT(RND*13)+3,
1)
700 IF (F=0)+(F=-1) THEN 710 ELSE
890
710 CALL JOYST(1,UI,AS)
720 IF UI=-4.0 THEN 750 ELSE 730
730 IF UI=4.0 THEN 820 ELSE 490
740 REM LEFT
750 CALL HCHAR(23,D,32)
760 D=D-14
770 IF D<2 THEN 780 ELSE 790
780 D=2
790 CALL HCHAR(23,D,42)
800 GOTO 490
810 REM RIGHT
820 CALL HCHAR(23,D,32)
830 D=D+14
840 IF D>30 THEN 850 ELSE 860

```

```

850 D=30
860 CALL HCHAR(23,D,42)
870 GOTO 490
880 REM PRINT LAZER

890 CALL VCHAR(2,D,159,21)
900 CALL SOUND(30,1000,0)
910 ER=ER+1
920 IF ER>4 THEN 940 ELSE 1030
930 REM OUT OF MISSILES
940 PRINT "YOU RAN OUT OF MISSIL
ES"
950 FOR A=-8 TO -5
960 B=B+110
970 C=10
980 CALL SOUND(500,A,0,B,C)
990 C=C-2
1000 NEXT A
1010 GOTO 1020
1020 GOTO 1171
1030 CALL VCHAR(2,D,32,21)
1040 IF D=A THEN 1080 ELSE 1050
1050 CALL SOUND(30,-7,0)
1060 GOTO 490
1070 REM PRINT OUT SCORE
1080 QW=QW+10
1090 CALL SOUND(100,-7,0)
1100 ER=0
1110 QS="SCORE="&STR$(QW)
1120 FOR T=1 TO LEN(QS)
1130 CALL HCHAR(1,T+1,ASC(SEG$(Q
$,T,1)))
1140 NEXT T
1150 Z=2
1151 CALL COLOR(12,INT(RND*14)+3
,1)
1160 GOTO 490
1170 REM END OF GAME
1171 IF QW>AW THEN 1172 ELSE 118
0
1172 AW=QW
1180 PRINT ":: YOUR SCORE IS ":Q
W::
1181 PRINT "HIGH SCORE=':AW
1190 PRINT "PRESS REDD OR BACK"
1200 CALL KEY(0,DI,ED)
1210 QW=0
1220 Z=2
1230 ER=0
1231 B=0
1240 IF (DI=15)+(DI=57) THEN 100
1250 IF (DI=6)+(DI=56) THEN 1270
1260 GOTO 1200
1270 CALL CLEAR
1280 PRINT "* *PRESS ANY KEY TO
BEGIN* *"
1290 GOTO 230

```

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This is it, the ultimate Fruit Machine for the VIC with nudge, hold and respin 100% machine code. "Overall Jackpot is a beautifully written simulation giving superb graphics, animation and use of colour. In fact, this program makes Commodore's Fruit Machine cartridge look unbelievably cheap and nasty." Home Computing Weekly No. 20 19/7/83. £5.50

KWAZY KWAKS

Accuracy and speed are required for this Shooting Gallery, superb use of colour and graphics in this new and challenging game from the author of Jackpot. 100% machine code, joystick or keyboard control. £5.50

PACMANIA

Choose your own game from the following options — difficulty 1-3 speed 1-3, size of maze 1-3, visible or invisible maze, still or moving power pills, define your own key controls, any combination, if this is your type of game, then this is the one for you, for the 3K expand VIC. £5.50

BUGSY (Joystick Only)

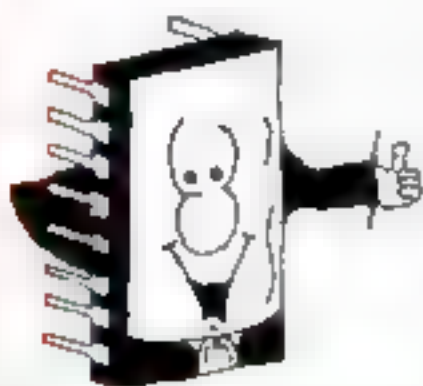
This is a Minefield with a difference as you step on the stones whilst collecting purple boxes which give you both time and points, they disappear from beneath your feet. DO NOT DESPAIR! "BUGSY" will randomly replace the stones but avoid bumping into him or its sudden death! An original compulsive and challenging game. £5.50

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JACKPOT 64

At last its here, specially written for the 64, by the author of "JACKPOT" the ultimate Fruit Machine program for the VIC. £5.50
(available from 1st Nov)

WESTMINSTER

A game for up to four players, can you lead the party of your choice and win the general election, you tour the 60 constituencies (seats) buying votes, when you can, (just like the real thing), this must be one of the first board type games specially written for the computer. Why play on your own, have fun with your family and friends playing WESTMINSTER. £5.50

RED ALERT

A game for 1-4 players, with sound and graphics. Make money in casinos, commit robbery, hide from the police, hire secret agents, (some of whom can be treacherous), negotiate for weapons, find and attack the secret rocket base to launch the missile, and watch the havoc and destruction caused. There's no turning back from "RED ALERT". £5.50

WHEELER DEALER

A game for two to twenty players, become a tycoon of the motor trade, you must obtain gearboxes, tyres and engines to produce cars for sale. Form syndicates, buy and exchange parts, buy dealerships, but be careful, you may become bankrupt and have to liquidate, find out what you are made of, have you got what it takes to become a WHEELER DEALER. £5.50

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Other software available for the VIC and Commodore 64, send for free brochure, including RABBIT SOFTWARE at £5.50 each. Send Cheques/PO's to:

SOFTWARE REVIEWS

Plug in and go places

You can find yourself in some very funny places when you set out on a computer adventure. Before you go, read all about them in our reviewers' reports

2003 - A Space Oddity 48K Spectrum £4.95

dk'Tronics, Unit 6, Shire Hill Industrial Estate, Saffron Waldon, Essex

Mark well the name of this program because it certainly is an oddity

Set in outer space, you have to find your way back to earth via a series of adventures which seem to have no point

There are three possible exits to any scene, choosing from either north, south, east, west, up or down. These exits can be either a door, space ship, space warp, ladder, or space shield

At some of the exits there are challenges to be met with a choice of fighting with either a laser or your mind. Of course, if you want

to be chicken, then you can run Treasure is lying about in various locations, and you either have to fight to get it, or it's there for the taking. All the exits are drawn for you, and there is one option I'm sure that you will take Drawing the time or space warp, takes up quite a bit of time, and pressing G will ensure that they are drawn no more I have a feeling that the title was

written tongue in cheek, and the game too It makes for light relief in the serious world of space blasters and hyper-drives.

instructions	100%
playability	75%
graphics	60%
value for money	100%



The Island 48K Spectrum £5.95

Virgin Games, 61-63 Portobello Road, London W11 3DD

An adventure game with two differences from Virgin! Not for them a complex manual, part of the fun is find out what the computer understands. And, yes, this is a graphic adventure, but very different from the Hobbit

The adventure is set on some islands. Given the treasure map, you must navigate to the correct island, find the treasure and return with it

When you start your adventure, this appears to be an all-text program. If, however, you manage to penetrate the fog bank en-route to the treasure island, you suddenly find yourself in the midst of a "dodge the rocks"

action sequence much like an arcade game

Fail, and you are sunk — sink, and you fail. Successful navigators reach the Island, but beware the swamp! More action sequences follow

There is, however, a criticism in the original text adventures, like Adventure 1 from Abersoft, taking the "wrong" route sometimes paid off, and when it didn't you certainly weren't killed off, but simply found yourself in an unproductive region or a very tight spot!

On the Island, take the "wrong" path and you will find yourself dead very quickly. D.M.

instructions	n/a
playability	80%
graphics	80%
value for money	95%



Kraal's Kingdom VIC-20 plus 16K £4.95

Buntasoft, 149 Monks Walk, Buntingford, Herts SG9 9DS

Writing a good adventure is, in many ways, much more difficult than you would think. The problems are exacerbated by lack of memory.

This author attempted to overcome this lack by writing the game in two parts. This nearly works, but is fouled by some appalling mistakes in technique

The scenario is standard enough. You charge around the place endeavouring to acquire the necessary impedimenta to rescue the princess.

The descriptions of the locations are good and the screen handling adequate The main

black spot is the interpretation The author uses the method of expecting certain fixed commands only This means that rather than a fixed two word command, several words may be expected This saves memory but makes play a nightmare

As a result, I got stuck on a plank in the middle of a lake Only by cheating could I find which specified phrase was expected

I found the game a little dry and lacking humour In spite of these moans, at the price it is very good value and is guaranteed to drive you to the extremes of despair (as any adventure should) I wouldn't, however, recommend it for a beginner

instructions	60%
playability	60%
graphics	n/a
value for money	90%



Tomb of Dracula 48K Spectrum £6.95

K'Tel, 620 Western Avenue, London W3

This game is another variation of the multi level adventure/maze type Alas it is hardly inspired.

You must enter Dracula's

chamber system and delve into as many levels as possible prior to sunset and Dracula's awakening After this your progress becomes a little harder

Other horrors to be avoided are ghouls, zombies, and slime pits When you light on a surprise vault you may be lucky enough to add to your valuable (and useful) collection of silver stakes

These can be used to kill opponents or pay for a glimpse of the map of the level in which you

are currently located I must admit I did not venture very deep but I hardly found it compelling

The game is not very dynamic The graphics are average, but certainly not startling

3D views of vaults are given but add little to what you can imagine — helpful only if you have a poor sense of direction

Use of colour is fair and there is the usual round of morbid minor key tunes

All in all there is nothing new

here in concept or execution, so I think it must join a legion of similar programs that are something less than top flight Certainly at £7 it is overpriced

instructions	80%
playability	70%
graphics	50%
value for money	40%



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ONE MAN'S VIEW

How you can spot the cowboys

With home computers being as popular as they are today, more and more software companies are setting up and marketing their programs

In the run up to Christmas many of these will be sold to both newcomers and experts in this field.

About half of the buyers of these programs will not be totally satisfied with what they get.

The fact of the matter is that there are still a lot of cowboys lurking behind glossy cassette inlay covers and flashy advertisements

So how do you tell the difference between a high quality software company and one that is only after your hard earned cash?

The best way is to see the software working before you buy it. Unfortunately this is not always possible so you may have to judge it by other means.

The second best way is to buy from companies who print screen displays on their adverts and/or cassette inlay cards.

Companies who do this obviously want you to see the high quality of their programs — they don't need an artist to paint you a picture of what the game could, but will not, be like

The third way of assessing programs is to read software reviews, such as the ones in this magazine. They will tell you the theme, quality, value for money and faults of the program. They are of course dependent on the reviewer's taste in programs, but even so will be given a fair review.

When looking around at programs you should expect top quality software.

Games should be of arcade quality. Expect them to be written in machine code, make full use of graphics and sound and exploit your computers abilities. Text/logic games should be well presented and easy to use.

Educational software should be easily understood and useful, not a computerised gimmick. It should be able to help you learn about a specific subject easily.

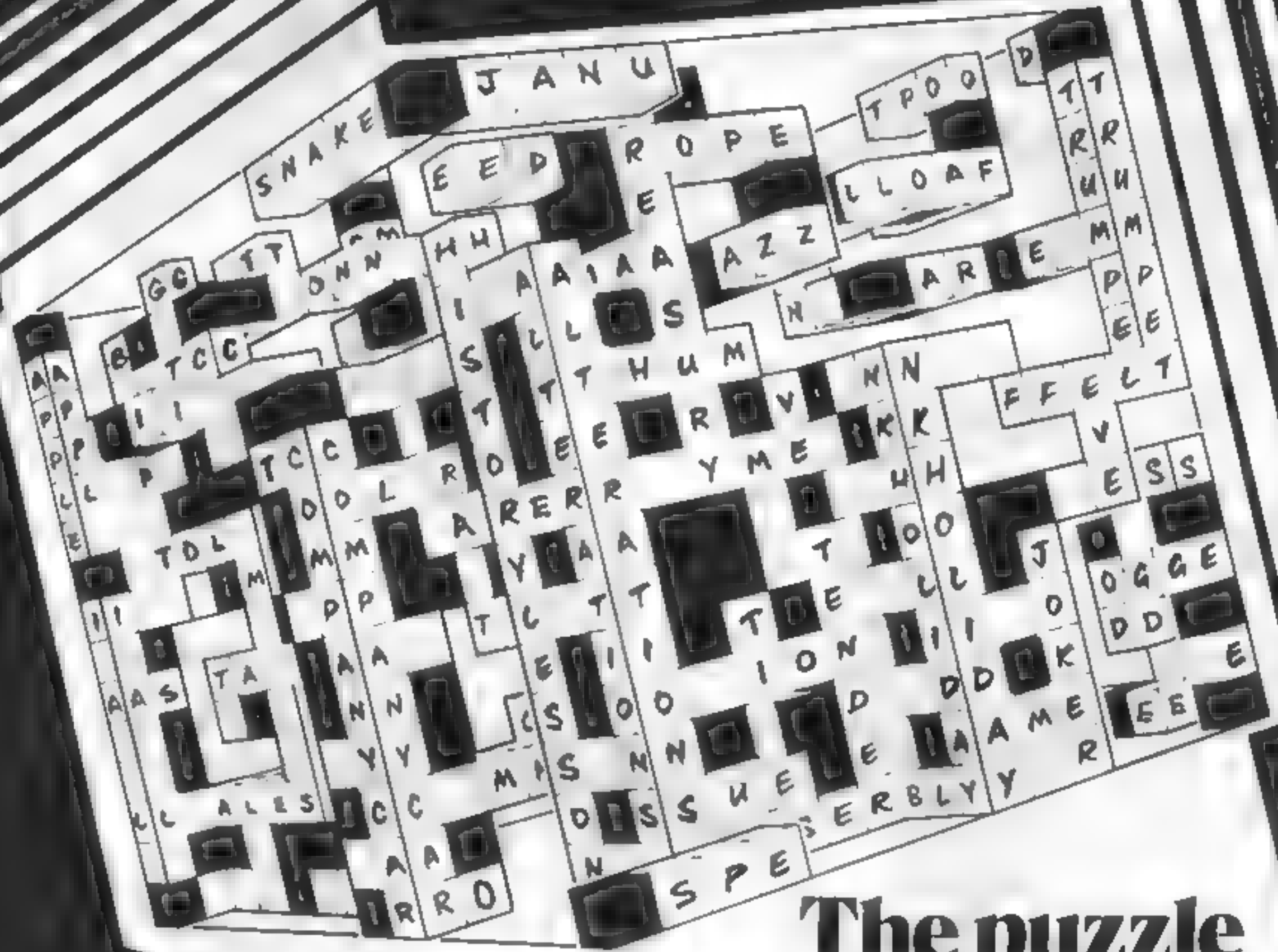
Utility and business software should make full use of your computer system. Ease of use and a neat output is essential in this type of application.

If there is a similar but better program available at a higher price then I would advise you to consider the better one — there is nothing worse than having to go about things the long way when there is an easy short cut available.

Software standards will only be as high as you set them. If you insist on the best, then the rubbish will dwindle away and more high quality software will be available at prices we can all afford

Kevin Irving
 Software Reviewer
 Carlisle,
 Cumbria

The ultimate Crossword



The puzzle that needs a computer

Alien present the ultimate in word puzzles – 30 integrated crosswords which form a cube.

All locations of this 3 dimensional puzzle are contained in the computer programme and you can complete any part you wish using the display on your TV and computer keyboard. Understanding all the relationships between the

crosswords is not possible without the computer but as you proceed you will discover new routes to help achieve the solution.

Features: Solution Store, Instant Display, Anagram Function, Character Location in memory.

This is a tough puzzle with a degree of difficulty – it's the ultimate but it's not impossible. Full instructions are included with the programme.

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Alien

The New Dimension

The Alien, Arndale House, Church St.
Blackburn, Lancs. BB7 5AF



Please allow 14 days for delivery.

First Steps with the Mr. Men 32K BBC £8.95

Mirrorsoft, Holborn Circus, London EC1P 1DQ

Using computers with young children is not as easy as people assume — it very much depends on the quality of software that is available.

This package is one that works — it's a well-thought-out and executed set of programs which will thrill many children in the four to eight age group.

The cassette contains four programs which are graded in difficulty.

The first, Mr Greedy's Ice Cream Hunt, is simply an attempt to improve hand/eye co-ordination and uses colour to emphasise direction.

Mr Silly's Hat Game is the weakest program on the cassette, because it takes far too long to finish. The aim here is to select the hats that Mr Silly wants, learning shape and colour matching in the process.

The final two games feature Mr Forgetful, who has lost either his clothes or letters of the alphabet in his 14 wardrobes. This is basically pair matching, but is very well done except for the tune at the end.

The package also contains a 24-page full colour book of Roger Hargreaves stories to explain, and interest the children in the games, plus a direction key template.

	D.C.
instructions	100%
ease of use	90%
display	90%
value for money	95%



Pathfinder Spectrum £5.95

Widgit Software, 48 Durham Road, London N2 9DT

Before numbers, or anything else, make sense, children need to be able to explore and practice with

basic concepts.

Here, Widgit offers a real learning opportunity for pre school and primary age children.

In a series of four well presented maze games featuring animals, the child can practice counting, explore such concepts as up, down, left and right, and begin to develop the ability to plan moves in advance.

Fun To Learn 32K BBC £6.95

Shards Software, 189 Eton Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 2UQ

This set of programs is written by a teacher and aimed at the six to 12 year old age group.

Count is a simple counting exercise which should only appeal to the very young. I wasn't impressed.

Mixer is a little better. It displays a mixed-up word which the child decodes. Words can be selected by the computer, or the children can enter their own words for a friend.

Calculator is a simple simulation of a pocket calculator. Quite effective, but I am a little unsure of its educational value.

Starship is probably the best part of the program. Similar to Hangman, the object is to find the

word before your starship is destroyed. This should appeal more to children because of its competitive element.

Codebreaker allows the child to code or decode a word. Again I have doubts about its educational value.

The programs are well written. The display uses large double size teletext characters which is very good for a group of children to observe together.

Colour is used to good effect and occasional musical pieces liven up the program. It is a good example of how educational software should be written, but some of the games lack imagination.

	G.T.
instructions	75%
ease of use	90%
display	100%
value for money	65%



School Maze Dragon £10.95

Dragon Data, Kenfig Industrial Estate, Margam, Port Talbot

Some software houses show an annoying tendency to produce programs for children of a far lower standard than those aimed at adults, but with a similar (or in this case, higher) price-tag.

This is a prime example of the phenomenon — a fairly short and unsophisticated BASIC program which I feel should have been developed much further before being unleashed onto the public.

It is an adventure-type game with a few short distractions thrown in.

A map of the school is shown at intervals, but movements within the program are not always as the map would lead you to expect.

At some points you use the cursor keys to move an arrow on the map — it is an upward pointing arrow regardless of the direction in which you are going, and the keys used do not auto-repeat.

In the school gym you are invited to play basketball. The previous position of the ball is not blanked out as it moves, so you get a trail of black squares across the screen.

The options offered in the Music and Art rooms are similarly crudely done.

To be fair, though, I must add that my children and their friends liked it.

	M.N.
instructions	50%
ease of use	60%
display	10%
value for money	10%



Kidding around with your micro

These five programs are child's play — so their producers say. See what our reviewers made of them

You may be tempted to ask why these are important. Try driving, playing chess, programming in BASIC, using a map, or finding your way home without them!

Though the programs are largely in BASIC, they are well written, colourful, attractive and make good use of sound.

Much more important in an educational sense, they are well structured and purposeful, providing useful experience in a way

that would be difficult without a computer.

Well done, Widgit! A real application for a home computer, cleverly executed and which doesn't cost the earth.

	D.M.
instructions	75%
ease of use	90%
display	80%
value for money	100%



Quick Thinking 48K Spectrum £6.95

Mirrorsoft, Holborn Circus, London EC1P 1DQ

Although they deal with addition, subtraction and multiplication of numbers, these programs will not teach such complex processes. They merely provide the opportunity to practice what has already been learned in an enjoyable way.

The presentation of the cassette is excellent, both visually and textually.

The programs — written for Mirrorsoft by Widgit — are equally good, with superb use of colour and shape though the Spectrum's screen shimmer makes reading numbers difficult. SumVaders has a mother ship dropping robots, add the num-

bers on each to destroy the robot before it reaches earth. When five land, the game is over.

In Robot Tables, the child must decide whether a piece of raw material is to be accepted or rejected before reaching the robot making machine.

To be acceptable, they must have the next number in the chosen table sequence, for example 2, 4, 6...? Make the wrong choice and all sorts of fascinating things happen. Great graphics!

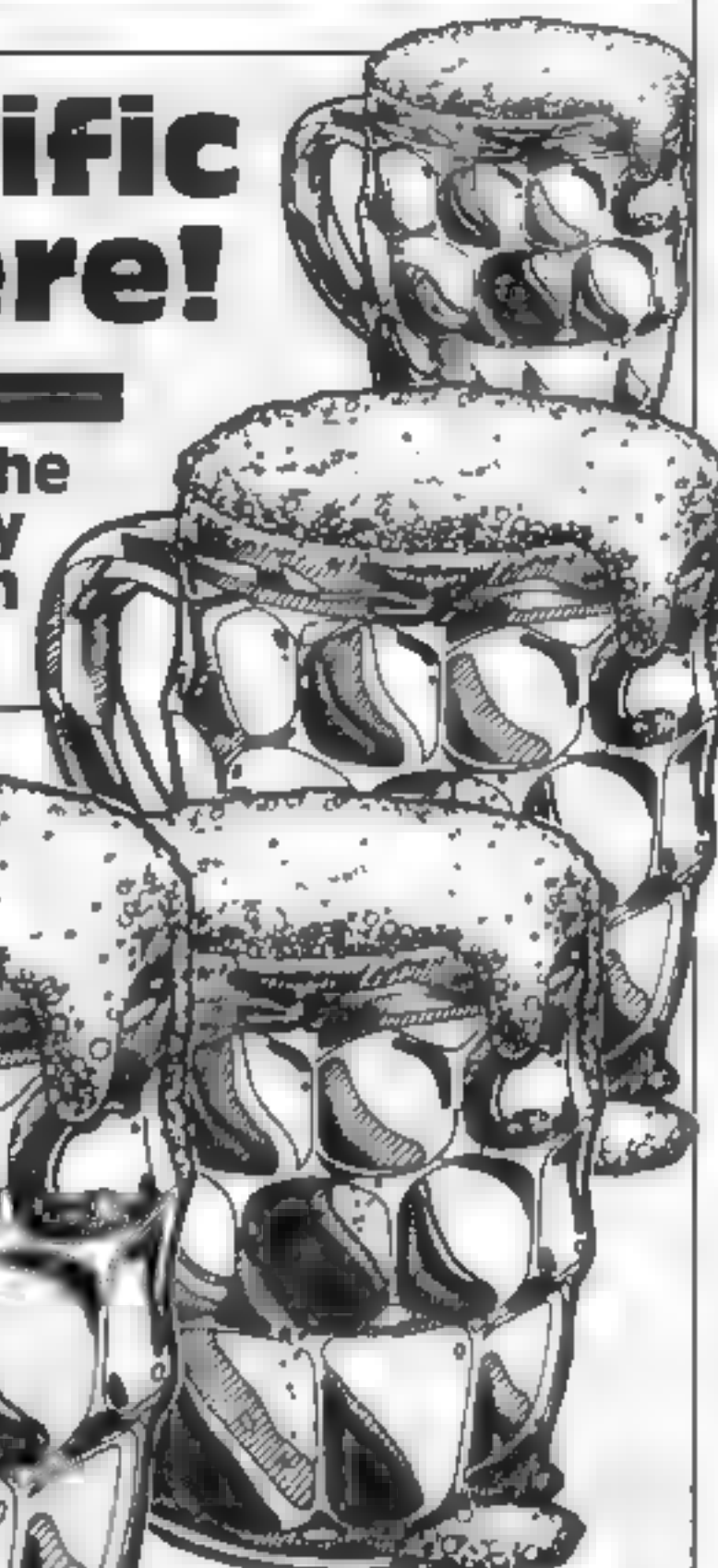
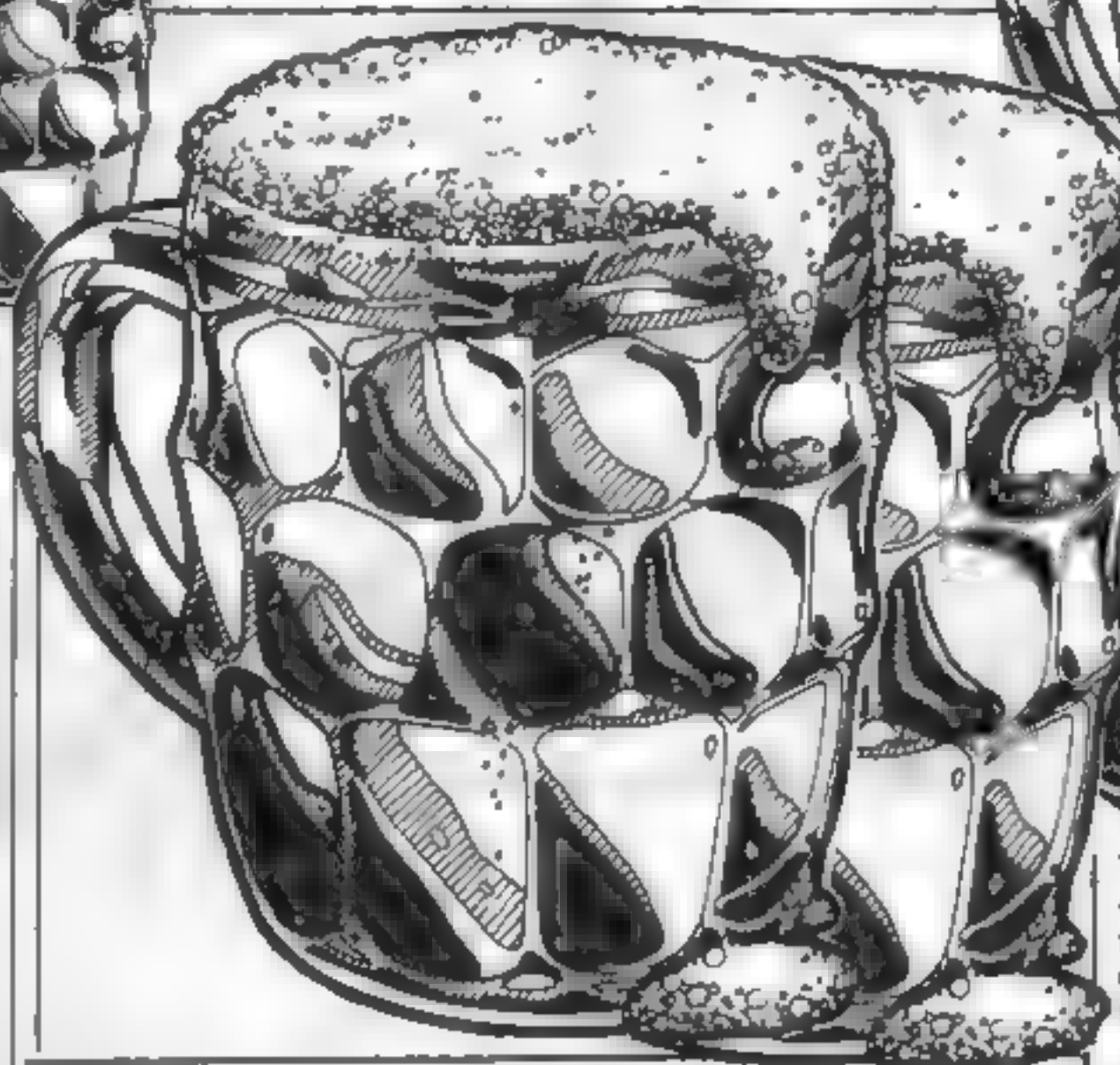
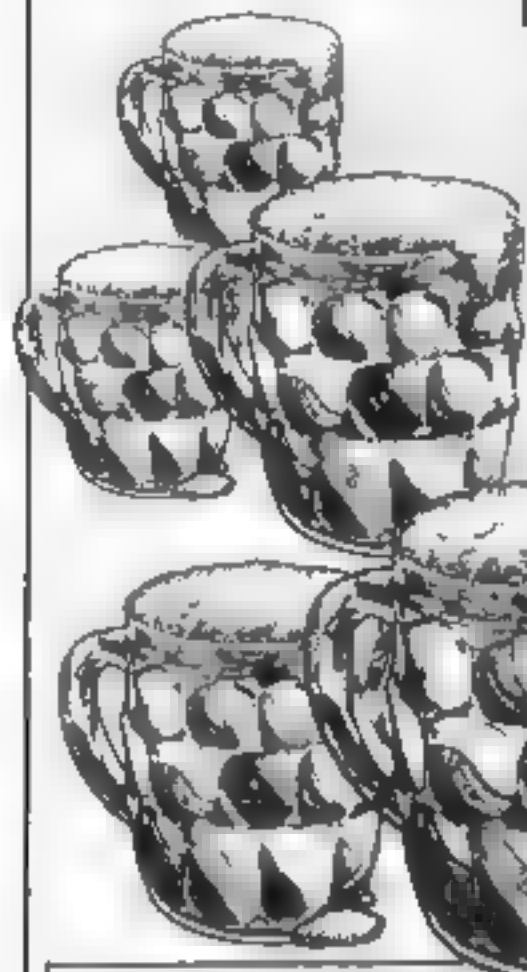
Criticisms? Robot Tables practices tables in sequence, but we use them out of sequence in everyday life. It needs a random element.

	D.M.
instructions	90%
ease of use	95%
display	100%
value for money	90%



There's a terrific draught in here!

Make your Oric quicker on the draw with this program by father-and-daughter team Brian and Sarah Grayson



Hints on conversion

Any machine with reasonably high resolution drawing capabilities could use the program with very little modification

The CIRCLE command, if not built into your machine's BASIC, will have to be constructed using the input radius and sine and cosine

LINE DRAW may have to be modified depending on the facility to draw relative to the last position or to some new x,y position. Since the Oric cannot draw to a point, those machines with this facility will only require a modification enabling it to draw to V and W

SAVE will depend on your machine's capability to store screen information. If this can be done, the appropriate SAVE command and memory location will need to be inputted

DELETE uses the Oric facility to use foreground on background colours. Most machines have a different facility and this part of the program should incorporate the appropriate command to produce an inverse of the normal display

Most machines use ASCII codes, so the keyboard sensing should not present any difficulties. Only the cursor movement keys will need to be checked

Remember to place the border slightly inside the full screen size to avoid the program stopping because it is out of range

How it works

5 clears the screen and sets up the title sequence and instructions
 10-20 draws the border, sets the initial cursor position, normal mode, and pixel movement (5)
 30-130 reads the keyboard input and resets the variables or sets up mode
 200-206 senses if a line is already on the screen to avoid wiping it out as the cursor flashes
 400-602 title and instructions
 1000-1040 tape save and reset or program termination

```

1 REM *** ORIC DRAUGHTSMAN ***
2 REM ** by B.D. & S.L.GRAYSON July '83 *
*
5 CLS:GOTO400
10 HIRES:PRINTCHR$(20);CHR$(17)
15 CURSET0,0,1:DRAW239,0,1:DRAW0,199,1:DRAW-239,0,1:DRAW0,-199,1
20 X=120:Y=100:T=1:I=5
30 K$=KEY$
32 IFK$=CHR$(49)THENI=1
33 IFK$=CHR$(50)THENI=2
34 IFK$=CHR$(53)THENI=5
35 IFK$=CHR$(48)THENI=10
40 IFK$=CHR$(8)THENX=X-I
50 IFK$=CHR$(9)THENX=X+I
60 IFK$=CHR$(10)THENY=Y+I
70 IFK$=CHR$(11)THENY=Y-I
80 IFK$="P"THENCURSETX,Y,T:GETK$:GOTO32
85 IFK$="Q"THENTEXT:RUN
90 IFK$="C"THENCURSETX,Y,1:PRINT"What radius?":INPUTR:CIRCLER,T:GOTO30
030
    
```

This program enables you to draw lines and circles in the hi-res mode using only the cursor control keys and various assigned single key entries.

No prior plotting on to paper is required as the cursor is used to 'compose' direct on the screen

The assigned keys are self explanatory and detailed in the program they are:

P to fix a point to which lines may be drawn from any other cursor position

C to draw a circle, you must input a radius when requested

L to draw a line to the point previously 'fixed'

D to enter the delete mode when every subsequent action is drawn in the background colour (wiping out a previous foreground feature)

N to return to the normal mode

Q returns to the instructions but beware, all your work will be lost

S to save the drawing on the screen. Position a blank piece of tape and start to record before pressing S

Cursor movement is achieved with the arrow keys, and the distance moved may be varied by 1,2,5 or 10 pixels by pressing 1,2,5,0 at any time. Best control will be achieved by using 5 or 10 until you are near to your desired position, then changing 1 or 2 for final positioning

ORIC PROGRAM

```

95 IFK$="S" THEN GOTO 1000
100 IFK$="F" THEN CURSETX,Y,1:CIRCLE4,1:CLS:PRINT"Line draw":U=X:W=Y

110 IFK$="L" THEN CURSETU,W,0:CIRCLE4,0:CURSETX,Y,1:DRAW(U-X),(W-Y),T

120 IFK$="D" THEN PRINT"Delete mode"-T=0:GOTO 30
130 IFK$="N" THEN CLS:T=1:GOTO 30
200 IF POINT(X,Y)=-1 THEN CURSETX,Y,0:WAIT5:CURSETX,Y,1:GOTO 30
201 IF POINT(X,Y)=0 THEN CURSETX,Y,1:WAIT5:CURSETX,Y,0:GOTO 30
400 POKE 618,2:PAPER0:INK7
401 IF PEEK(524)>127 THEN PRINT CHR$(20)
402 PLOT 16,8,20:PLOT 17,8,"ORIC":PLOT 22,8,16
404 PLOT 12,12,20:PLOT 13,12,"DRAUGHTSMAN":PLOT 25,12,16
450 WAIT 175:CLS
455 PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT
460 PRINT"This Oric program allows you to draw"
462 PRINT"lines and shapes in the computer's "
464 PRINT      "HIRES mode."
466 PRINT      "Only a few single key commands "
468 PRINT      "are necessary,":PRINT
469 PRINT      "The finished drawing may be"
470 PRINT      "'saved onto tape and subsequently'"
471 PRINT      "'reloaded and displayed, though"
472 PRINT      "not modified."
475 WAIT 1500:CLS
500 PRINT"      These are:-":PRINT
506 PRINT"The normal cursor control keys":PRINT
507 PRINT"P - To fix a point":PRINT
508 PRINT"C - To draw a circle - you must input a radius":PRINT

509 PRINT"F - To fix a point to which you may"
      510 PRINT"      draw lines from other points":PRINT
      511 PRINT"L - To draw a line from the current"

```

```

512 PRINT"      position to the 'F' point"
:PRINT
513 PRINT"D - To enter the delete mode."

514 PRINT"      Lines and circles when drawn in "
515 PRINT"      the normal way will be erased":PRINT
516 PRINT"N - To return to normal mode":PRINT
517 PRINT"Q - To quit the program and return"
518 PRINT"      to this list. ALL IS LOST!":PRINT
524 PRINT CHR$(27) "L      Press SPACE to continue"
525 GET Z$:IF Z$=CHR$(32) THEN CLS
528 PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT
530 PRINT"S - This automatically saves the "
531 PRINT"      " finished drawing on tape"
532 PRINT"      REMEMBER TO POSITION SOME BLANK"
533 PRINT"      TAPE AND START THE CASSETTE BEFORE PRESSING 'S'"
534 PRINT"      To recover the drawing type"
535 PRINT"      HIRES before 'CLOAD'"
536 PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT
550 PRINT"      The distance the flashing cursor"
552 PRINT"      moves may be varied at any time"
554 PRINT"      by inputting 1,2,5,0 for 1,2,5,10"
556 PRINT"      pixels. It is normally 5."
590 PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT

8600 PRINT CHR$(27) "L      Press SPACE to begin"
602 GET Z$:IF Z$=CHR$(32) THEN GOTO 10
1000 PRINT"saving in progress"
1010 CSAVE"",A40960,E49000,AUTO
1020 CLS:PRINT"Saving complete. Do you wish to continue Y/N?"
1030 INPUT R$:IF R$="Y" THEN GOTO 10
1040 IFR$="N" THEN TEXT:CLS

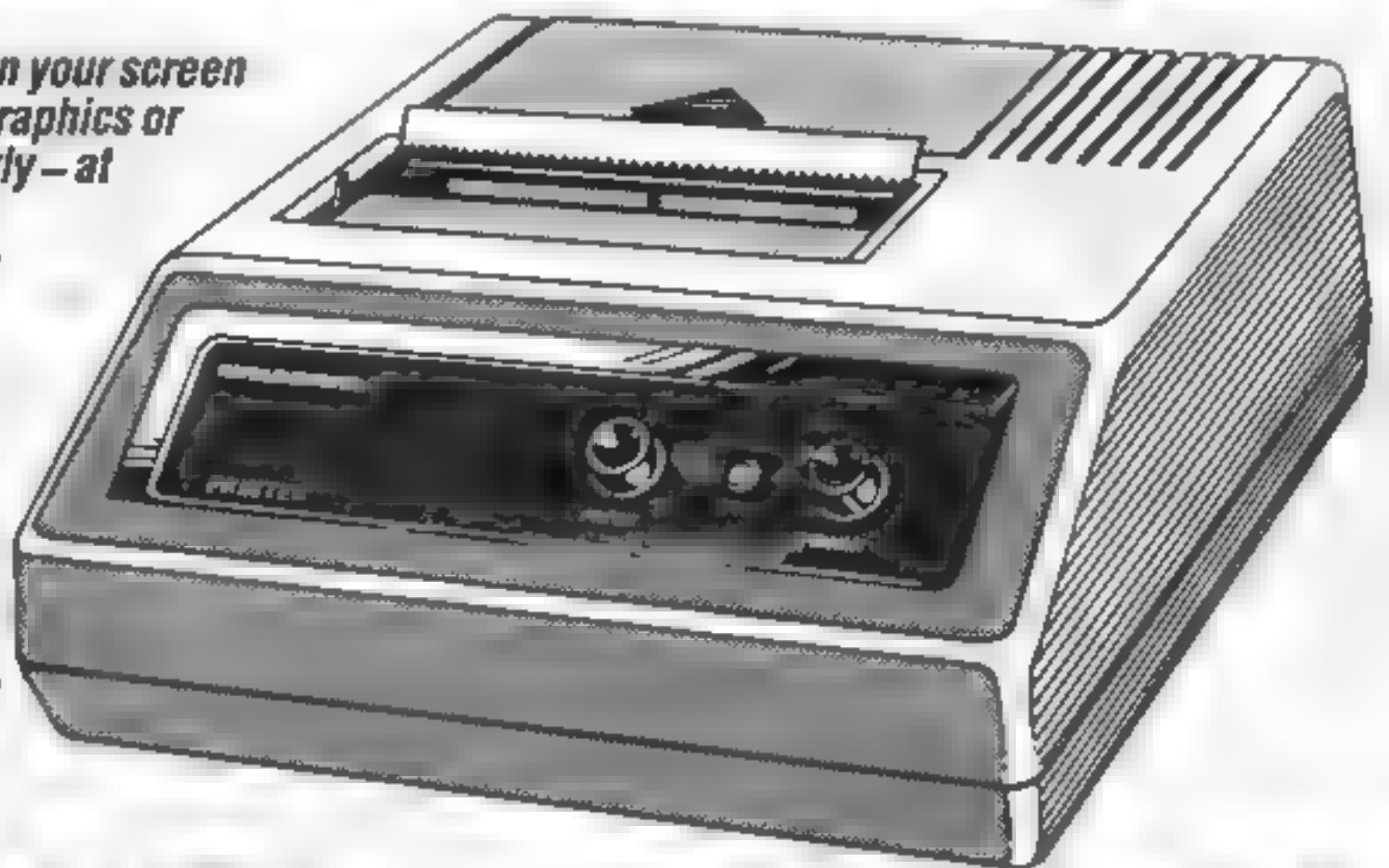
```

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LETTERS

The Joy of Joysticks

I have been a TI owner since the end of April this year, and am very grateful to the few magazines, such as yours, which take a real interest in the Texas micro.

However, very few of the programs in magazines such as yours seem to use the Texas joysticks. Though these joysticks are not the ultimate in good design, they can add another dimension or variation to games that would otherwise become boring.

Now before anyone tells me to get off my peripherals, plug in my modules and write a program myself, I'd like to say that I am doing just that — it will be a maze game, using joysticks, and when it has been fully debugged you might just get to see it.

Meanwhile, here is a joystick routine for the Apple Scrumpting game printed in HCW 37. Replace lines 395 to 440 with the following:

```
395 CALL JOYST(1,A,B)
400 CALL HCHAR(Y,X,
32)
405 IF (A<>-4)+(B<>
0) THEN 415
410 X=X-1
415 IF (A<>4)+(B<>0)
THEN 425
420 X=X+1
425 IF (A<>0)+(B<>4)
THEN 435
430 Y=Y-1
435 IF (A<>0)+(B<>
-4) THEN 445
440 Y=Y+1
```

This routine can, with slight modification, be used on many other games.

By the way, I typed this letter myself, in less than 10 minutes, but prior to obtaining my Texas this could have taken anything from two to three months without the practice on a real keyboard.

I doubt this improvement would have been the same using a Spectrum or Oriol. I reserve the right to remain a bad speller, though.

Tony "Tonks" Huby,
Bramley, Leeds

Peace on earth — and elsewhere

I appeal to everyone who will be buying, giving or receiving computer games this Christmas to stop and think before making their choices.

I put it to you that encouraging young people to play games the purpose of which is to kill, bomb, shoot, conquer, destroy and show as much aggression as possible is as sick as forcing them to watch "video nasties".

In fact it is sicker, because

Send your letter to Letters, Home Computing Weekly, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0EE. Don't forget to name your computer — the best letter could win £5-worth of software. Got a problem with your micro? We'll soon be starting a queries page, so send your technical questions to Queries at the above address



with computer games they must actively participate.

It is a tragedy that while British home micro software leads the world in technical quality, the vast majority of the themes of "games" appear to have been thought up by the minds of mass-murderers to give pleasure to admirers of Adolf Hitler, Jack the Ripper, Attila the Hun and Denis Nilsen.

Look through the adverts in this magazine and feel shame. We have allowed this to happen, and we are all responsible, programmers, advertisers, magazines and shops.

We are using the greatest innovation of our age to teach kids that killing is OK. Pick your presents with care. Happy Christmas. Peace and goodwill to all Mankind, and Aliens.
Mel Croucher, Automata,
Portsmouth, Hants

Computer talk from Norfolk

I seem to have achieved fame — or is it notoriety? — since having a letter published in HCW 31. Not that I'm complaining, as several people took the trouble to get in touch with me — in this neck of the woods, computerising females are a bit thin on the ground, and we need to stick together.

Is there a postal club for adventure game players? If not, would anyone be interested in starting one? I work full time, and don't honestly have the time to run a club, but I would be willing to help.

On the subject of adventure games, has anyone found all seven pieces of parchment in Invincible Island (Spectrum 48K)? I've found six, and can't find number seven. Help!!!!

If your child is anything like my daughter, she'll spend hours and hours drawing and colouring patterns. The following two lines help keep them quiet over Christmas!

10 PRINT (Your choice of

graphics, UDGs, spaces);

20 GOTO 10

This gives a screenful of pattern, and can easily be altered by adding or removing shapes or spaces. Enterprising parents can, by adding a few more lines, allow the child to choose paper and ink colours.

On to the complaints section. I've had dealings by post with four companies. Three out of the four have been excellent — Hewson, Gilssoft and Virgin Games. Who gets the booby prize? Quicksilva, that's who. I sent off a cheque to them for their Game Lords Club. It was cashed promptly, but it was over a month before I heard anything from them. Pity. Especially as some of their games are so good.

A. Bates (HCW 38) (No relation as far as I know) is lucky to have got her husband interested in computing. So far, apart from playing the odd game, the most interest mine has shown has been when I put in a simulation of a two-stroke engine.

He liked that, and thought that it might be of some use. Oh well, I shall just have to write a program of motorbike racing!

Best wishes, Happy Christmas, and keep up the good work.

Patricia Bates, North Walsham, Norfolk

Mark Eyles of Quicksilva said: "The Game Lords Club is handled by a professional mail order company, and they're normally very quick — perhaps Mrs Bates's order got held up by the Christmas post. If she has any further problems, she should contact us at Quicksilva directly, and we'll do our best to help. By now, she should have received the first issue of the Games Lord magazine, anyway, which should be some consolation — we think it's really good!"

Cheat the Jetman

Amaze your friends with your high score on Jet Pac, thanks to a slight scoring fault in the program.

On the fourth sheet of Jet Pac there are plane-shaped objects which, when they explode, give you points. If the Jetman is placed on the top right hand cloud he cannot be killed.

So if the television is switched off and the computer left on, the program will continue to accumulate a steady score, and if left long enough, any score can be reached without laying a finger on the keyboard!

M. Brunning, Bispham, Blackpool

The sceptre of Cadarian

Deep underground, evil things await those foolhardy enough to venture into Radro. Marc Freebury's adventure game was written for an Atari 800 with discs, but you can easily convert it to cassette



Ready for combat — a scene from Hawk the Slayer

"... And whosoever recovers the sceptre will be made heir apparent to the throne of Cadarian. Signed, his most royal majesty Cydran IV, midsummer's day."

The herald remounted and spurred his horse on, to repeat the message in the next village.

Radro. They all knew that name, he reflected, yet few remembered the Underground Fortress of Evil at the height of its power.

The Castellan had often spoken of it, on the dawn watch. "Many were the fallen. Some say 10,000 warriors breaching the upper defences, and 10 times that number in a futile attempt to secure the labyrinth beneath."

"But ours was the victory, if not the war. Radro was tamed if not broken, and the entrance sealed with mighty magicks. In our vanity we thought it ended."

The old man would shake his head. "Then fell forces attacked the palace, and removed the sceptre of rule, without which our king is powerless. And then to find the entrance to Radro unsealed... evil times to be sure. That is why you, young man, declare the challenge to the people."

Again the silver-grey hair would shake back and forth. "But few of true noble blood yet live, and none will dare the entrance. The memory of terror lies too strong upon the land."

The herald urged his mount on, shivering despite the clear sky and golden sun overhead.

How to play

This game is so big that I had to split it into two programs. Together they occupy over 200 disc sectors.

In order for the game to work, the first program should be called 'CASTLE.BAS' and the second 'MAZE.BAS'.

The present version is for disc only, but conversion to cassette is a simple matter. First, all references to 'NAME.DAT' should be removed, as should all XIO statements.

Change all occurrences of "D:" to "C:". Lastly, insert a piece of code at the front of MAZE.BAS to ask for the player's character name.

In order to sustain interest, the game has been made strategically complex, although it is hoped that play itself is a simple matter.

When entering the castle for the first time, ask for a new character (note: most one-letter user replies do not require you to press return.) Keep a close eye on your gold supply as you wander around the market stalls.

If you wish to skip an option at any time or wish to avoid paying for something, type a zero. When you are sufficiently prepared, use

option 5 from the courtyard to enter the maze.

Once at the maze entrance, you can retrieve a previously saved level by telling the doorwarden, and giving the name the level was saved under (usual eight-letter limit applies).

Once you descend the stairs, you will be given a three-dimensional view of the road ahead. At this stage it is a good idea to start drawing a map so that you can find your way back to the original stairs.

Movement is via the keys W, A and D — use A and D for turning on the spot and W to advance one step.

The maze plotter is written to be very fast, and as such has one slight defect. If two consecutive 'blocks' of the 20 by 20 grid are open to your left or right, a ghost wall will be created. These are easily spotted and should prove only a minor irritant at first.

Eventually you will encounter something. Treasure is randomly distributed and is not carried by monsters, since they have no use for objects.

Speaking of monsters, combat is also likely. Up to six monsters may attack simultaneously and can easily hack you to pieces if you are foolhardy (or brave as some would have it) enough to stand your ground.

There are five combat options. First, hack at one monster with your sword. Second, run away.

Third is an option to cast one of the four spells available. These can only be cast if you have enough spell ability (gained from magical objects).

The first spell is 'sleep'. It will cause one monster to become drowsy, allowing you one free swipe.

Next is Fireball, causing one monster to lose nearly all its hit points.

Third is Rock To Mud. This lashes out magical power and disintegrates one block of the maze around you. Naturally this display of power will cause the monsters to be temporarily cowed.

Lastly is Teleport, which moves you at random.

Death. It reaches us all eventually. If your hit points reach zero, you die. Coming out of the maze restores all lost hit points.

Experience points are gained for monsters killed, and when enough have accrued, your character's level will increase, as will the upper limit of his hit points. Your rating as an adventurer will be indirectly tied to your level.

That is a basic outline of the game. Of course, there are things left unexplained but you'll find them out... (har har!)

```

*****
110 REM *
120 REM * RADRO! FANTASY/ADV *
130 REM * BY M FREEBURY *
140 REM *
150 REM *****
160 DIM NAME$(20), NAME2$(20) TRAP 100
170 UPLN = 1,4,0,"D NAME.DAT" INPUT #1,N
AME$ CLOSE #1 FLAG=1 GOTO 460
180 UPLN = 1 GRAPHICS B SETCOLOR 2,0,0
COLOR 1 SETCOLOR 1,0,0
190 DATA 360,120,40,80,70,80,70,100,40,
100,70,120,410,120,105,80,120,120,416,1
03,114,103,460,120,140,80
200 DATA 360,120,40,80,70,80,70,100,40,
100,70,120,410,120,105,80,120,120,416,1
03,114,103,460,120,140,80
210 DATA 170,100,140,120,510,120,190,80
220,80,2,0,100,120,100,220,120
230 DATA 560,120,240,80,270,80,270,120,
240,120
240 DATA -1,-1
250 REM *** DRAW FRONT PAGE ***
260 RESTORE 200
270 READ X,Y IF X=-1 THEN 200
280 IF X>320 THEN X=X-320 PLOT X,Y GOTO
230
290 DRAWTO X,Y GOTO 250
300 FOR I=40 TO 270 STEP 3 PLOT 160,0 0
DRAWTO X,80 NEXT I
310 ? CHR$(125) POKE 732,1 ? ? ? * RADR

```

ATARI PROGRAM

```

0) THE UNDERGROUND FORTRESS *)
300 POKE 709,15
310 DIM DELAY(5) DELAY(1)=75 DELAY(2)=1
50 DELAY(3)=250
J10 REM *** PLAY INTRO ***
J20 RESTORE 370 FLAG=0
330 READ NOTE,TYPE:IF NOTE=-1 THEN 450
340 SOUND VOICE,NOTE,10,8 SOUND VOICE+1
NOTE+1,10,8
350 FOR I=1 TO DELAY(TYPE) NEXT I
360 GOTO 330
370 DATA 72,1,76,1,72,1,76,1,72,1,96,1
01 1,91,1,108,2,0,1,182,1,144,1,108,1
380 DATA 96,2,0,1,144,1,114,1,96,1,91,2
0 1,144,1,72,1,76,1,72,1,76,1
390 DATA 72,1,96,1,81,1,91,1,108,2,0,1,
102,1,144,1,108,1,76,2,0,1,144,1,91,1,9
6,1,108,1,0,2
400 DATA 96,1,91,1,81,1,72,3,121,1,64,1
72,1,81,3,128,1,72,1,81,1,91,1,144,1,8
1,1,91,1
410 DATA 96,2,144,1,72,1,72,1,96,1,76,1
,72,1,76,1,72,1,81,1
420 DATA 72,1,76,1,72,1,96,1,81,1,91,1,
108,2,0,1,182,1,144,1,108,1
430 DATA 96,2,0,1,144,1,114,1,96,1,91,2
0,1,144,1,72,1,76,1,72,1,76,1
440 DATA 72,1,96,1,81,1,91,1,108,2,0,1,
182,1,144,1,108,1,96,2,0,1,144,1,91,1,9
6,1,108,1,1,1
450 FOR I=1 TO DELAY(2) NEXT I SOUND 0,
0 0 0 SOUND 1,0,0,0
455 REM *** STRING DECLARATIONS ***
460 DIM ARM$(100)
470 ARM$="010 PADDED ARMOR20LEATHER AR
MOR60 CHAIN MAIL 100 PLATE MAIL 200
PLATE +1 "
480 DIM SH$(48) SH$="010 SMALL SHIELDS
0 LARGE SHIELDS000 +1 SHIELD "
490 DIM WP$(170)
500 WP$="001 SHORT SWORD 005 BROAD
SWORD 020 LONG SWORD 050 TWO H
ANDED SWORD"
510 WP$(81)="100 +1 SWORD 150 +2
SWORD 300 LIFE STEALER 900 U
ORPAL BLADE "
520 DIM SPELL$(40) SPELL$="SLEEP F1
RECALL ROCK/MUD TELEPORT "
530 OPEN #1,4,0,"K "
540 IF FLAG=1 THEN FLAG=0 GOTO 2150
550 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0 DL=PEEK(5
60)+PEEK(561)*256 POKE DL+3,71 POKE DL+
6,7
560 POSITION 6,0 ? "WELCOME!"
570 ? :? "To Caradian Castle I am your
host."
580 ? "Teraldor Are you New or are you"
590 ? "Revisiting?"; GET #1,K
600 IF K=0? THEN 2130
610 IF K<>7? THEN 550
615 REM *** NEW CHARACTER ***
620 ? :? "What be thy name, stranger ";
630 INPUT NAME$;IF LEN(NAME$)>10 THEN ?
"what do your friends call you "; GOTO
630
640 ST=INT(RND(1)*60)+10 DEX=INT(RND(1)
*75)+10 LV=1 LK=INT(RND(1)*6)+1 GO=INT(
RND(1)*2*LK)+10
650 HP=INT(RND(1)*10)+LK*XP=0 SP=0 WP=0
660 WP=0 ARM=0 SH=0 PU=0
665 REM *** SOUTHERNER ***
670 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0 DL=PEEK(5
60)+PEEK(561)*256 POKE DL+3,71 POKE DL+
6,7
680 POSITION (20-LEN(NAME$))/2,0 ? NAME
$
690 ? :? "SUMMARY OF CHARACTER : "
700 POSITION 5,5 ? "STRENGTH " ,ST,"/1
00"
710 POSITION 5,7 ? "DEXTERITY " ,DEX,"/
100"
720 POSITION 5,9 ? "LUCK " ,LK
730 POSITION 5,11 ? "GOLD " ,GO
740 POSITION 5,13 ? "HI PT5 " :;HP
750 POSITION 5,15 ? "LEVEL " :;LV
760 POSITION 5,17 ? "EXP PT5 " :;XP
770 POSITION 0,21 ? "Press RETURN", G
ET #1,K
780 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0 DL=PEEK(5
60)+PEEK(561)*256 POKE DL+3,71 POKE DL+

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```

6,7
790 POSITION (20-LEN(NAME$))/2,0 ? NAME
$
800 ? :? "KNOWN SPELLS " :? :?
810 IF SP=0 THEN ? :? "NONE" GOTO 890
820 FOR I=1 TO SP ? " " ;SPELL$(I-1
)*10+1*(I)? NEXT I
830 POSITION 0,21 ? "Press RETURN", G
ET #1,K
840 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0 DL=PEEK(5
60)+PEEK(561)*256 POKE DL+3,71 POKE DL+
6,7
850 POSITION (20-LEN(NAME$))/2,0 ? NAME
$
860 ? :? "WEAPON " ;IF WP=0 THEN ? "NO
NE" GOTO 880
870 ? WP$(WP*10+1),(WP*10+20)
880 ? :? "ARMOUR " ;IF ARM=0 THEN ? "N
ONE" GOTO 900
890 ? ARM$(ARM*10+1),(ARM*10+16)
900 ? :? "SHIELD " ;
910 IF SH=0 THEN ? "NONE" GOTO 930
920 ? SH$(SH*10+1),(SH*10+16)
930 ? :? "POTIONS " ;IF PU=0 THEN ? "NO
NE" GOTO 950
940 ? PU
950 POSITION 0,21 ? "Press RETURN", G
ET #1,K
955 REM *** GAME CENTRE ***
960 TRAP 960 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0
DL=PEEK(560)+PEEK(561)*256 POKE DL+3,71
POKE DL+6,7
970 POSITION 5,0 ? "courtyard"
975 REM *** WORD 'COURTYARD' INVERSE **
*
980 ? "From here, you may visit"
990 ? :? "1) Castor,soothsayer He will
reveal":? " your personality "
1000 ? ? "2) Danito,greatest of the w
hite"
1010 ? " witches and expert in healin
g."
1020 ? :? "3) Xanthar Retired swordma
n,now a"
1030 ? " master smith "
1040 ? :? "4) Laureth,A hard but fair
treasure"
1050 ? " and equipment buyer "
1060 ? :? "5) RADRO Leave the castle G
o forth"
1070 ? " to fame and wealth " or dea
th!"
1080 ? :? "6) Temporarily leave the ga
me "
1090 POSITION 2,20 ? "Which do you choo
se (1-6)", GET #1,K
1100 K=K-40 IF K<1 OR K>6 THEN ? CHR$(2
53), GOTO 1090
1110 ON K GOTO 670,1120,1810,1720,1970,
2000
1115 REM *** WITCH ***
1120 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0 POSITION
17,0 ? "Danito "
1130 ? :? "In return for a small off
ering"
1140 ? :? "I will give you potions,made
from"
1150 ? :? "the rarest of substances "
1160 POSITION 3,10 ? "How much will you
donate "; INPUT I
1170 I=INT(ABS(I));IF I=0 THEN 960
1180 J=INT(RND(1)*10)+1 J=INT(J-LK*RND(
1)) IF J=0 THEN J=1
1190 IF I<J OR I>6 THEN ? :? "Begone,5
coundrel !" FOR I=1 TO 500 NEXT I GOTO
960
1200 POKE 752,1 FOR L=1 TO INT(I/J) ON
INT(RND(1)*4)+1 GOTO 1210,1230,1250,127
0
1210 POSITION 2,15 ? "A mixture of Luca
rne,for strength." ST=ST+INT(RND(1)*LK)
+1 IF ST>100 THEN ST=100
1220 GOTO 1280
1230 POSITION 2,15 ? "Cayenne,for a fas
ter swordsm." DEX=DEX+INT(RND(1)*LK)+1
IF DEX>100 THEN DEX=100
1240 GOTO 1280
1250 POSITION 2,15 ? "Asafetida A luck
bringer." LK=LK+1 IF LK>6 THEN LK=6
1260 GOTO 1280
1270 POSITION 2,15 ? "Cumfrey root,for

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ATARI PROGRAM

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healing "PO=PO+INT(RND(1)*3)+1:IF PO>9
THEN PO=9
1200 FOR K=1 TO 500 NEXT K
1290 POSITION 2,15:FOR K=1 TO 40 ? " ",
NEXT K NEXT L
1300 GD=GD-J GOTO 960
1305 REM *** SMITH ***
1310 GRAPHICS 0,SETCOLOR 2,0,0:POSITION
14,0 ? "Mastersmith "
1320 ? ? "Since you can only use 1 sword,shield"
1330 ? ? "or suit of armour at one time, I will"
1340 ? ? "only sell you what you do not have "
1350 IF WP<>0 THEN 1430
1360 ? :? "First, a sword " POKE 752,1 :?
1370 FOR I=0 TO 7:7 I+1," > ",WP$(I*20+1 I*20+20) NEXT I
1380 POSITION 2,22:7 "Which One,sire ", GET #1,K:K=K-48:IF K<0 OR K>8 THEN 1380
1390 IF K=0 THEN 1430
1400 I=(K-1)*20+1 NAME2$=WP$(I,I*2) J=VAL(NAME2$)
1410 IF GD<J THEN 1390
1420 GD=GD-J WP=K
1430 POSITION 2,22 ? "Press RETURNJ", GET #1,K
1440 IF ARM<>0 THEN 1530
1450 ? CHR$(125) POSITION 14,0 ? "Mastersmith "
1460 ? :? :? "Some Armour " :?
1470 FOR I=0 TO 4:7 I+1," > ",ARM$(I*16+1 I*16+16) NEXT I
1480 POSITION 2,22 ? "Which suit "; GET #1,K:K=K-48:IF K<0 OR K>5 THEN 1480
1490 IF K=0 THEN 1530
1500 I=(K-1)*16+1 NAME2$=ARM$(I,I*2) J=VAL(NAME2$)
1510 IF GD<J THEN 1480
1520 GD=GD-J ARM=K
1530 POSITION 2,22 ? "Press RETURNJ", GET #1,K
1540 ? CHR$(125) POSITION 14,0 ? "Mastersmith "
1550 IF SH<>0 THEN 1630
1560 ? :? "A shield,perhaps " :?
1570 FOR I=0 TO 2:7 I+1," > ",SH$(I*16+1 I*16+16) NEXT I
1580 POSITION 2,22 ? "Which one "; GET #1,K:K=K-48:IF K<0 OR K>2 THEN 1580
1590 IF K=0 THEN 1630
1600 I=(K-1)*16+1 NAME2$=SH$(I,I*2) J=VAL(NAME2$)
1610 IF GD<J THEN 1580
1620 GD=GD-J SH=K
1630 POSITION 2,22 ? "Press RETURNJ", GET #1,K
1640 GOTO 960
1645 REM *** TREASURE EXCHANGER ***
1720 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0:POSITION 15,0 ? "Treasurer " :?
1730 IF WP=0 THEN 1810
1740 I=WP*9+INT(LK*RND(1))
1750 ? "Your sword : I offer " :?
1760 POSITION 5,22 ? "Accepted (Y/N) ", GET #1,K
1770 IF K=78 OR K<>89 THEN 1790
1780 WP=0 GD=GD+1
1790 POSITION 2,22 ? "Press RETURNJ", GET #1,K
1800 ? CHR$(125) POSITION 15,0 ? "Treasurer " :?
1810 IF ARM=0 THEN 1890
1820 I=SH*7+INT(LK*RND(1))
1830 ? "Your armor : I offer " :?
1840 POSITION 5,22 ? "Accepted (Y/N) ", GET #1,K
1850 IF K=78 OR K<>89 THEN 1870
1860 ARM=0 GD=GD+1
1870 POSITION 2,22 ? "Press RETURNJ", GET #1,K
1880 ? CHR$(125) POSITION 15,0 ? "Treasurer " :?
1890 IF SH=0 THEN 1950
1900 I=SH*2+INT(LK*RND(1))
1910 ? "Your shield : I offer " :?
1920 POSITION 5,22 ? "Accepted (Y/N) ", GET #1,K

```

```

1930 IF K=78 OR K<>89 THEN 1930
1940 SH=0 GD=GD+1
1950 POSITION 2,22:7 "Press RETURNJ", GET #1,K
1960 GOTO 960
1965 REM *** HERE WE GO!!! ***
1970 POKE 752,1:7 CHR$(125),"FORWARD","NAME$,"!"
1980 OPEN #2,8,0,"D NAME DAT" PRINT #2,NAME$.CLOSE #2
1990 FLAG=1 GOTO 2040
1995 REM *** ENDGAME ***
2000 ? CHR$(125) POSITION 7,0:7 "LEAVE"
2010 ? :? "Do you wish ",NAME$," to be"
2020 ? :? "placed in the INN for the duration "
2030 GET #1,K:IF K=78 OR K<>89 THEN 2110
2040 NAME2$="D"
2050 NAME2$(3)=NAME$
2060 OPEN #2,8,0,NAME2$
2070 ? #2,51:7 #2,DEX ? #2,LK ? #2,HP ? #2,LV:7 #2,XP
2080 ? #2,WP:7 #2,ARM ? #2,SH ? #2,PO ? #2,SP ? #2,GD ? #2,PO
2090 CLOSE #2
2100 IF FLAG=1 THEN RUN "D MAZE DAT"
2110 TRAP 2120 X10 99,#2,0,0,"D NAME DAT"
2120 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0:POSITION 15,0:7 "GAME ENDED" :? :? END
2124 REM *** RESTORE CHARACTER ***
2126 REM *** FROM DISK ***
2130 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0:7 "Your name,sire ",:INPUT NAME$:IF LEN(NAME$) > 10 THEN 2130
2140 ? NAME$,".eh ?"
2150 ? ? "One moment, lord "
2160 NAME2$="D"
2170 NAME2$(3)=NAME$.TRAP 2190
2180 OPEN #2,4,0,NAME2$ GOTO 2200
2190 ? :? "thy name is not known here "
CLOSE #2 FOR I=1 TO 500:NEXT I:GOTO 550
2200 INPUT #2,51:INPUT #2,DEX:INPUT #2,LK:INPUT #2,HP:INPUT #2,LV:INPUT #2,XP:INPUT #2,WP
2210 INPUT #2;ARM:INPUT #2,SH:INPUT #2,PO:INPUT #2,SP:INPUT #2,GD:INPUT #2,PO
CLOSE #2
2220 ? "Welcome back,my lord Please step into"
2230 ? "the castle "
2240 POSITION 2,22:7 "Press RETURNJ", GET #1,K GOTO 670
2245 REM *** PILW !!! ***

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*****
110 REM *
120 REM * RADRO - UNDERGROUND *
130 REM * BY MARC FRELBURY *
140 REM *
150 REM *****
160 DIM NAME$(20),NAME$(80),GLN$(20),A$(20,20),RATE$(120),STU(6),DUX(6),MAG(6),HIP(6),MON$(110)
170 MON$="DRG BRIGAND DRUID
BUGGLAR TROLL VAMPIRE MEDUSA
DEMON V LICH LVL DRAGON
180 RATE$="BUMPKIN PEASANT AMATEUR
SWORDSMAN ADVENTURERKNIGHT SLAYER
RADRO15T HERO DEMI-GOD "
190 RATE$(101)="GOD-TYPE 1"
200 OPEN #1,4,0,"D NAME DAT":INPUT #1,NAME$.CLOSE #1
205 REM *** MUST LOAD CHARACTER ***
210 NAME2$="D" NAME2$(3)=NAME$
220 OPEN #2,4,0,NAME2$:OPEN #1,4,0,"K:"
230 INPUT #2,51:INPUT #2,DEX:INPUT #2,LK:INPUT #2,HP:INPUT #2,LV:INPUT #2,XP:INPUT #2,WP
240 INPUT #2,ARM:INPUT #2,SH:INPUT #2,PO:INPUT #2,SP:INPUT #2;GD:INPUT #2,PO
CLOSE #2
250 HP2=HP ST2=ST DLX2=DLX
255 REM *** DRAW FRONT PAGE ***
260 GRAPHICS 8 SETCOLOR 2,0,0 COLOR 1 5 LTCOLOR 1,0,0
270 PLOT 100,160 DRAWTO 100,20 DRAWTO 240,20 DRAWTO 240,160 DRAWTO 170,90 DRAW

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ATARI PROGRAM

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100 160
280 POKE 709,12 POKE 752,1 ? CHR$(125);
" ** THE ENTRANCE **"
290 ? " " ,NAME$
300 FOR I=1 TO 1500 NEXT I GOTO 560
305 REM *** FAST MAZE PLOTTER ***
310 I=0 X1=0 Y1=0 XVEC=60 YVEC=32 XL=X
YL=Y
320 ON DIR GOTO 330,340,350,360
330 XL=X+1 YL=Y+1 GOTO 370
340 XL=X+1 YL=Y+1 GOTO 370
350 XL=X+1 YL=Y-1 GOTO 370
360 XL=X-1 YL=Y+1
370 IF A(XL,YL)=0 THEN 400
380 PLOT X1,Y1+YVEC, DRAWTO X1+XVEC,Y1+Y
VEC DRAWTO X1+XVEC,Y1+YVEC*4 DRAWTO X1
,Y1+YVEC*4
390 GOTO 410
400 PLOT X1,Y1, DRAWTO X1+XVEC,Y1+YVEC D
RAWTO X1+XVEC,Y1+YVEC*4 DRAWTO X1,Y1+YV
EC*4
410 ON DIR GOTO 420,430,440,450
420 XL=X+1 YL=Y+1 GOTO 460
430 XL=X+1 YL=Y-1 GOTO 460
440 XL=X-1 YL=Y+1 GOTO 460
450 XL=X-1 YL=Y+1
460 IF A(XL,YL)=0 THEN 490
470 PLOT 319-X1,Y1+YVEC DRAWTO 319-X1-X
VEC,Y1+YVEC DRAWTO 319-X1-XVEC,Y1+YVEC*
4 DRAWTO 319-X1,Y1+YVEC*4
480 GOTO 500
490 PLOT 319-X1,Y1, DRAWTO 319-X1-XVEC,Y
1+YVEC DRAWTO 319-X1-XVEC,Y1+YVEC*4 DRA
WTO 319-X1,Y1+YVEC*4
500 X1=X1+XVEC Y1=Y1+YVEC XVEC=XVEC/2 Y
VEC=YVEC*0.6
510 XL=X+(DIR=2)*(I+1)-(DIR=4)*(I+1) YL
=Y+(DIR=1)*(I+1)-(DIR=3)*(I+1)
520 IF I<3 AND A(XL,YL)>0 THEN I=I+1 GO
TO 520
530 IF A(XL,YL)>0 THEN RETURN
540 PLOT X1,Y1, DRAWTO 319-X1,Y1: PLOT X1
160-Y1 DRAWTO 319 X1,160-Y1
550 RETURN
560 NAME2$="D "
565 REM *** OLD LEVEL ? ***
570 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0 POSITION
15,0 ? "Doorwarden " ? ?
? ? ? "Doorwarden " ? ?
580 ? "Do you wish to enter a saved lev
el " , GET #1,K
590 IF K=78 THEN 690
600 IF K<>89 THEN 570
610 ? :? "Name of this stored level " ,
INPUT GLN$
620 NAME2$(3)=GLN$
630 TRAP 650
640 OPEN #2,4,0,NAME2$ GOTO 660
650 CLOSE #2 GOTO 610
660 FOR I=1 TO 20 FOR J=1 TO 20 INPUT #
2,Z A(I,J)=Z NEXT J NEXT I
670 INPUT #2,X INPUT #2,Y INPUT #2,DIR
CLOSE #2
680 TRAP 40000 GOTO 770
684 REM *** ULTRA COMPLEX MAZE ***
686 REM *** GENERATOR!!! ***
690 ? CHR$(125) POKE 752,1 POSITION 16,
? ? "Wall" Z=J*20
700 FOR I=1 TO 20 A(I,1)=0 A(I,20)=0 A(
20,1)=0 A(1,20)=0 NEXT I
710 FOR I=2 TO 19 FOR J=2 TO 19 POSITIO
N 21,0 ? Z ? ? Z ? ?
720 X=INT(RND(1)*14)+1 IF X>9 THEN X=0
730 IF X<>0 AND RND(1)<0.75 THEN X=1
740 A(I,J)=X NEXT J NEXT I
750 X=INT(RND(1)*17)+2 Y=INT(RND(1)*17)
760 DIR=INT(RND(1)*4)+1 IF A(X,Y+1)<>1 T
HEN 730
760 A(X,Y)=9
765 REM *** RE ENTRY POINT ALWAYS ***
770 GRAPHICS 8 SETCOLOR 2,0,0 COLOR 15
IF A(X,Y)<>9 THEN GOSUB 310
780 ? CHR$(125) POKE 752,1
790 ? " W STRENGTH ",512," DLXFLR1
Y " ,DEX," "
800 ? "A D HIT PTS " ,HP2," TREASURE
"
810 GET #1,K
815 REM *** TURN DIR 1 ***
820 IF K=A5("A") THEN DIR=DIR+DIR*DI
R+(DIR*DIR*4) GOTO 770

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830 IF K=A5("D") THEN DIR=DIR+DIR*DI
R+(DIR*DIR*4) GOTO 770
840 IF K<>A5("W") THEN 810
850 XL=X+(DIR=2)-(DIR=4) YL=Y+(DIR=1)-(
DIR=3)
855 REM *** HIT A WALL, TWICE ***
860 IF A(XL,YL)=0 THEN ? CHR$(125),"
OUCH! ? CHR$(255) FOR I
=1 TO 500 NEXT I GOTO 780
870 X=XL Y=YL
880 IF A(X,Y)=1 OR A(X,Y)=9 THEN 770
890 IF A(X,Y)<>4 THEN 960
895 REM *** HIT FALLS DOWN HOLE! ***
900 ? CHR$(125)," *** A PIT!
***"
910 FOR I=0 TO 255 SOUND 0,I,10,15-INT(
I/16) NEXT I
920 512 512 INT(RND(1)*10) 140 HP2 INT
(RND(1)*3) IF 512<0 THEN 512=0
930 FOR I=1 TO 100 NEXT I
940 IF HP2<0 THEN 2210
950 GOTO 770
955 REM *** I FEEL DIZZY ***
960 IF A(X,Y)<>9 THEN 980
970 DIR=INT(RND(1)*4)+1 GOTO 770
980 IF A(X,Y)<>9 THEN 1250
985 REM *** YIPPEE! WAY OUT ***
990 ? CHR$(125),"Stairway out, Do you wi
sh to leave Y/N"; GET #1,K
1000 IF K<>89 AND K<>78 THEN 990
1010 IF K=78 THEN 770
1020 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0 ? "YOU S
URVIVED!"
1030 ? :? ? "Current gold is " ,G0
1040 ? :? ? "Current experience is " ,X>
1050 XPE=100 IF LV=1 THEN 1070
1060 FOR I=1 TO LV-1 XPE=XPE+XPE, NEXT I
1070 IF XPE>XPE THEN LV=LV+1 XPE=0 HP=HP+
INT(RND(1)*10)*LV ? :? "You have made a
t to level " ,LV
1080 ? :? "Rating is " ,
1090 Z=INT(XPE/1000)+1 Z>10 THEN ? "100
GOOD!" GOTO 1110
1100 ? RATE$(Z*10+1,Z*10+10)
1110 POSITION 2,23 ? "PREL5 RETURN",
GET #1,K
1120 GRAPHICS 0 SETCOLOR 2,0,0 POSITION
15,0 ? "Doorwarden " ? ?
1130 ? "Do you wish to save this level
" , GET #1,K
1140 IF K<>89 AND K<>78 THEN 1120
1150 IF K<>89 THEN 1210
1160 ? ? "Name of this stored level " ,
INPUT GLN$
1170 NAME2$(3)=GLN$
1180 OPEN #2,8,0,NAME2$
1190 FOR I=1 TO 20 FOR J=1 TO 20 Z=A(X
,J) PRINT #2 / NEXT J NEXT I
1200 PRINT #2,X PRINT #2,Y PRINT #2,DIR
CLOSE #2
1205 REM *** DUMP CHARACTER ***
1210 ? CHR$(125) NAME2$="D " NAME2$(3)=
NAME$ OPEN #2,8,0,NAME2$
1220 PRINT #2,51 PRINT #2,DEX PRINT #2,
LK PRINT #2,HP PRINT #2,LV PRINT #2,XP
PRINT #2,WP
1230 PRINT #2,ARM PRINT #2,SH PRINT #2,
PO PRINT #2,SP PRINT #2,GO PRINT #2,PO
CLOSE #2
1240 RUN "D CASTLE BAS"
1245 REM *** HELLO, WHAT'S THIS ? ***
1250 IF A(X,Y)<>7 THEN 1430
1260 A(X,Y)=1 RESTORE 1340 Z=INT(RND(1)
*INT(XPE/1000))+1 IF Z>9 THEN 1260
1270 FOR I=1 TO Z READ NAME2$,TGP,MAG,5
TU,DUX NEXT I
1280 ? CHR$(125),"You have found " ,NAME
2$, IF TGP>0 THEN ? " worth " ;TGP," GP"
GP=GP+TGP
1290 ? :IF MAG>0 THEN ? "You gain magic
al ability":SP=SP+INT(RND(1)*LK):IF SP>
4 THEN SP=4
1300 IF 5TU>0 THEN ? "You feel stronger
" 512=512+INT(RND(1)*(X/1000))
1310 IF DUX>0 THEN ? "Your armour feels
weightless," DEX=DEX+INT(RND(1)*(5T/10
))
1320 ? "Press [RETURN]", GET #1,K
1330 GOTO 770
1334 REM *** LIST OF OBJECTS-CAN ***
1336 REM *** BE EXTENDED BY YOU ***

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ATARI PROGRAM

```

1940 DATA Magic Scrolls,0,1,0,0
1950 DATA Loose Coins,2,0,0,0
1960 DATA A Green Potion,0,0,1,0
1970 DATA A Blue Potion,0,0,0,1
1980 DATA A Ring,3,1,0,0
1990 DATA A carved Figure,2,0,0,0
1400 DATA Gemstones,4,0,0,0
1410 DATA Fragrant oils,0,0,1,1
1420 DATA A rod,0,1,0,1
1424 REM *** ULP! WHAT'S THAT ***
1426 REM *** DARK,NASTY SHADOW? ***
1430 GRAPHICS 0:SETCOLOR 2,0,0:POKE 752
1
1440 TGP=INT(RND(1)*(LV/2))+INT(RND(1)*
3) IF TGP<1 THEN TGP=1
1450 IF TGP>6 THEN TGP=6
1460 TGP2=TGP GOLD=0:XPE=0
1470 FOR I=0 TO TGP-1 MONS=INT(RND(1)*L
V)+1+INT(RND(1)*2).IF MONS>10 THEN MONS
=10
1480 RESTORE 2180 GOLD=GOLD+INT(RND(1)*
(MONS)),XPE=XPE+MONS*50
1490 FOR J=1 TO MONS READ STU STU(I+1)=
STU READ DUX:DUX(I+1)=DUX READ MAG:MAG(
I+1)=MAG READ HIP:HIP(I+1)=HIP
1500 NEXT J MONS=MONS-1:NAME2$(I*10+1,1
*10+10)=MONS$(MONS*10+1,MONS*10+10):NEX
T I
1510 ? "You Have Come Upon : "
1520 POSITION 2,2 ? "GROUP NAME STA
105"
1530 FOR I=0 TO TGP-1 ? " ;I+1," "
,NAME2$(I*10+1,I*10+10); POSITION 18,11
? IF HIP(I+1)>0 THEN ? "ALIVE "
1540 IF HIP(I+1)<=0 THEN ? "DEAD "
1550 NEXT I
1560 IF RND(1)>= .65 THEN POSITION 2,20
? "The enemy have the Advantage.."GOTO
1930
1570 POSITION 2,20 ? "Your Options : 1)
FIGHT 2) WITHDRAW" POSITION 17,21 ? "3)
SPELL 4) BARGAIN"
1580 POSITION 17,22 ? "5) DRINK POTION"
1590 POSITION 2,23 ? "Your Option ",GL
1 #1 K
1600 IF K<49 OR K>53 THEN 1590
1610 POSITION 0,20 FOR I=1 TO 15 ? "
",NEXT I
1620 K=K-48 ON K GOTO 1830,1810,1720,16
60,1630
1625 REM *** MAGIC POTION! ***
1630 IF PO=0 THEN 1940
1640 HP2=HP2+INT(RND(1)*10)+1 IF HP2>HP
THEN HP2=HP
1650 GOTO 1940
1654 REM *** LOOK GUYS,CAN'T WE ***
1656 REM *** MAKE A DEAL ?? ***
1660 IF LV/10>RND(1) THEN 1940
1670 DAM=INT(RND(1)*5)*TGP2+1 IF DAM>GD
THEN 1940
1680 POSITION 2,20 ? "You May Pass For
",DAM," Gp.Y/N")
1690 GET #1,K IF K<>89 AND K<>78 THEN 1
690
1700 IF K=89 THEN GD=GD-DAM GOTO 770
1710 GOTO 1940
1715 REM *** ZAPPEM! ***
1720 POSITION 2,20 ? "Which Spell (1-4)
"
1730 GET #1,K K K 48 IF K<1 OR K>4 THEN
1730
1740 I=5:PK OR RND(1)>= .9 ? THEN 5P=0 GO
TO 1930
1750 5P=5P-K IF 5P=1 THEN I=INT(RND(1)*
TGP)+1 HIP(I)=HIP(I)-INT(RND(1)*4)+1 GO
TO 1930
1760 IF 5=2 THEN I=INT(RND(1)*TGP)+1 HI
P(I)=INT(RND(1)*4)+1 GOTO 1930
1770 I=INT(RND(1)*3)-1 J=INT(RND(1)*3)-
1 A(X+1,Y+J)=I GOTO 770
1780 X=INT(RND(1)*17)+2 Y=INT(RND(1)*17
)+2 IF A(X,Y)<>1 THEN 1730
1790 GRAPHICS 2:SETCOLOR 2,0,0:POKE 752
1 POSITION 9,6 ? #6,"GO!"
1800 FOR I=255 TO 0 STEP -1:SOUND 0,I,8
,8 NEXT I:SOUND 0,0,0,0 GOTO 770
1810 IF RND(1)>= .7 THEN POSITION 2,20 ?
OR I=1 TO 10 ? " ",NEXT I
GOTO 1930
1820 GOTO 770
1824 REM *** THE FOOL'S TRYING ***

```

```

1826 REM *** TO FIGHT IT OUT! ***
1830 POSITION 2,21 ? "Against Which Gro
up ",GLT #1,K
1840 K=K-48 IF K<1 OR K>TGP OR HIP(K)<=
0 THEN 1830
1850 POSITION 2,20 FOR I=1 TO 10 ? "
",NEXT I
1860 DAM=INT(RND(1)*100)+INT(XP/1000)
1870 IF DAM<DUX(K) THEN POSITION 2,20 ?
"Your Stroke Goes Wide!"FOR I=1 TO 20
0 NEXT I GOTO 1930
1880 DAM=INT(RND(1)*100)
1890 IF DAM<STU(K) THEN POSITION 2,20 ?
"THE ",NAME2$((K-1)*10+1,(K-1)*10+10);
" Defends!" GOTO 1930
1900 DAM=INT(RND(1)*WP*2*LV)+1:DAM=DAM+
(WP=6)+(WP=7) DAM=DAM+(WP=7 AND RND(1)>
0.95)*100+(WP=8)*DAM
1910 POSITION 2,21 ? "You Strike For ",
DAM," points!" HIP(K)=HIP(K)-DAM
1920 IF HIP(K)<=0 THEN POSITION 2,22 ?
"the ",NAME2$((K-1)*10+1,(K-1)*10+10),
" is dead!"TGP2=TGP2-1
1930 FOR I=1 TO 150 NEXT I
1940 POSITION 0,20 FOR I=1 TO 15 ? "
",NEXT I
1950 IF TGP2=0 THEN GOTO 2120
1960 FOR I=0 TO TGP-1 IF HIP(I+1)<=0 TH
EN 2100
1970 DAM=INT(RND(1)*100)
1980 POSITION 2,20 ? "The ",NAME2$(I*10
+1,I*10+10)," strikes ."
1990 IF RND(1)<= .75 OR MAG(I)=0 THEN 20
40
2000 ? "with a thunderbolt!" FOR J=1 TO
150 NEXT J
2010 DAM=INT(RND(1)*MAG(I))+1 MAG(I)=MA
G(I)-DAM HP2=HP2-DAM
2020 IF HP2<=0 THEN 2210
2030 POSITION 0,20 FOR J=1 TO 15 ? "
",NEXT J GOTO 2110
2040 HP2=INT(DUX2/10)+ARM*4 IF DAM<=HP2
THEN ? "but misses!",FOR J=1 TO 100 N
EXT J GOTO 2100
2050 IF RND(1)*100+LV*4<=12 THEN ? "you
is dead!" FOR I=1 TO 100 NEXT I GOTO 21
00
2060 DAM=INT(RND(1)*(STU(I+1)/5))+1 DAM
=DAM+INT(RND(1)*(ARM*2)) IF DAM<1 THEN
DAM=1
2065 REM *** Uwwwwwwwwww! ***
2070 ? "and hits for ",DAM," points!"
2080 FOR J=1 TO 150 NEXT J
2090 HP2=HP2-DAM IF HP2<=0 THEN GOTO 22
10
2100 POSITION 0,20 FOR J=1 TO 15 ? "
",NEXT J
2110 NEXT I GOTO 1930
2114 REM *** CAN I OPEN MY EYES ***
2115 REM *** NOW ? ***
2120 ? "H$(125), POSITION 13,0 ? "You
Sneezes!"
2130 ? " ? ? "Searching the bodies of t
he fallen"
2140 ? " reveals ",GOLD," gold pieces!"
10:PRINT
2150 ? " ? ? "Experience points gained ",X
P:PRINT
2160 POSITION 2,21 ? "PRESS RETURN!"
GLT #1 K
2170 A(X,Y)=1 GOTO 770
2173 REM *** MONSTER ATTRIBUTES ***
2180 DATA 10,8,0,3,16,20,0,6,5,8,10,4
2190 DATA 30,10,0,12,50,10,0,20,60,40,2
0,5
2200 DATA 64,56,34,31,0,86,43,43,09,3,
65,66,9,45,75,86
2204 REM *** ABANDON HOPE ALL YE ***
2205 REM *** WHO ENTER HERE ***
2210 GRAPHICS 0:SETCOLOR 2,0,0:POKE 752
1 POSITION 13,10 ? "DEAD"
2220 POSITION 13,10 ? "NAME"
2230 COLOR 160:PLUT 19,14:DRAWTO 19,20
DRAWTO 20,20:DRAWTO 20,14
2240:PLUT 16,16:DRAWTO 23,16:COLOR 32:PL
UT 0,0
2250:X10:GJ:#2,0,0,"D NAME:BAT"
2260:NAME2$="D" NAME2$(3)=NAME$ X10:GJ
#2,0,0:NAME#4
2270:POSITION 2,0:POKE 752,0:END

```

Sinclair Special

6



Inside...

*Setting new standards in
educational software with
Sinclair-Macmillan*

Plus six other learning programs

TODAY, LEARNING IS A NEW GAME

Subsidised microcomputers are now commonplace as teaching aids for the very youngest children and the ZX Spectrum is prominent amongst those micros at use in schools.

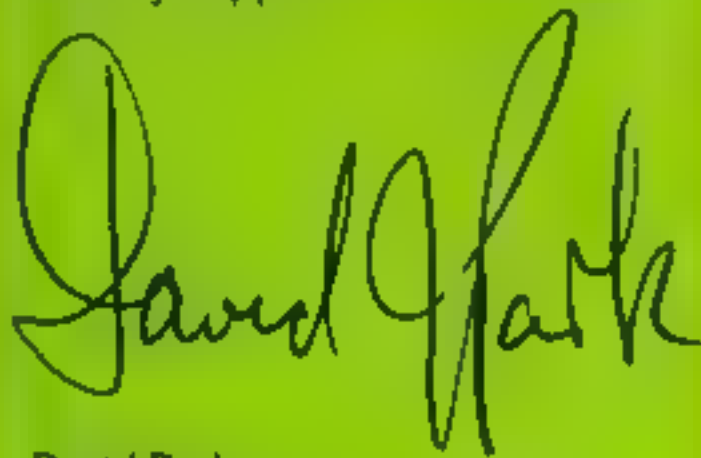
In the relatively short time that the Spectrum has been at work in the classroom, two questions have been answered. Yes: with the right software, the micro can and does teach effectively and thoroughly (and gives teachers more time to devote to individual pupils). Yes: young children think little of working rapidly and successfully, with a screen and keyboard, on even quite complex subjects.

In this Sinclair Special we reveal a range of educational software specifically designed to make full use of these advantages. The programs produced by Sinclair in collaboration with Macmillan Education are fascinating. They deal imaginatively and most effectively with early reading skills and take a truly refreshing approach to basic science.

In the Blackboard range we've programs which bring a light-hearted clarity to the tricky matters of spelling and punctuation.

These programs are designed for use both at home and in the classroom. Each program is accompanied by full documentation which gives parents helpful advice and guidance on the educational objectives.

The programs covered on these pages represent only a fraction of the full and fast-growing list of Spectrum software. Be assured we'll keep you in touch with new developments as they happen.



David Park
Education Marketing Manager

NEW WAYS TO LEARN WITH THE ZX SPECTRUM

Programs from Blackboard Software

The new range of educational programs from Blackboard Software makes learning an enjoyable process by involving the child in a game which teaches as it entertains.

Each program has a step-by-step example section and gives correct answers after a number of attempts. Vocabulary changes can be made, allowing each program to keep pace with the child's development. This flexibility can also be used in the classroom to cater for children of differing ability.

The instructive and colourful games which follow the successful completion of each group of sentences provide useful practice in letter recognition and increase familiarity with the Spectrum keyboard.

All programs are written for the 48K RAM Spectrum.



Alphabet Games

Three games of letter recognition (using either upper or lower case) to help children learn the alphabet and find their way round the computer keyboard.

Alphagaps — The full alphabet is displayed, along with a second, incomplete version. The child must fill in the missing letters.

Random Rats — Press the letter key that is displayed on the gun to destroy the rats which have invaded the cellar!

Invaders — Stop little green men from landing on Earth by pressing the appropriate letter.

Early Punctuation

While an animated matchstick man marches above displayed sentences the child must decide which punctuation mark is missing and where to insert it. At the touch of a key the matchstick man drops the mark into place. After successful completion of every sentence in the exercise, light relief comes in the form of a bottle-shooting game!

The Apostrophe

As each sentence is displayed, a bird appears with a worm in its beak. The keyboard is used to move the bird and drop the worm into the correct place for the apostrophe. When ten sentences have been corrected, the Grub Game is displayed. Press the correct character to change the grub into a butterfly... before it munches through a flower!

Capital Letters

A program to teach the use of capital letters. Sentences incorporating proper nouns and sentences without opening capitals are displayed. The child inserts the correction by guiding an animated figure to the appropriate letter.

For each correct answer an apple grows on a tree. After ten correct answers the child's skills in recognising letters and using the Spectrum keyboard are needed to save the apples as they fall to the ground.

Speech Marks

A comprehensive program including sentences with one or two sets of speech marks ("inverted commas") and exercises in both direct and reported speech.

Using the Spectrum keyboard, a cursor is used to guide speech marks to the correct position. The program offers three levels of difficulty, with full examples for each section. Guide Max the mouse through a maze, after the correct completion of five sentences from each section, but beware of Persian cats!

Castle Spellerous

A spelling game with ten levels of vocabulary, including words with silent first letters, double letters and other difficult words. The Princess has been captured and carried off to Castle Spellerous. Helped by ten soldiers, the child can attempt a rescue by giving the right answers. Part of a siege tower is built for each correctly spelt word. Mistakes are costly — the wicked wizard appears as a vampire bat, turning the men into frogs, butterflies and bats!

When ten words are spelt correctly the rescue begins and the wizard takes flight.

SINCLAIR + MACMILLAN: A NEW DIMENSION IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Sinclair have joined forces with Macmillan Education to produce a completely new and different range of educational software. The results so far can be seen in these exceptional programs.

The Learn to Read series is derived from Macmillan Education's best-selling primary school reading scheme, Gay Way. It offers a unique opportunity for parents and

teachers to participate in the child's first experience in reading

Macmillan Education's Science Horizons is one of Britain's most successful school science schemes. Each program concentrates on key scientific ideas and, through simulation of real life, makes the learning process entertaining and enjoyable



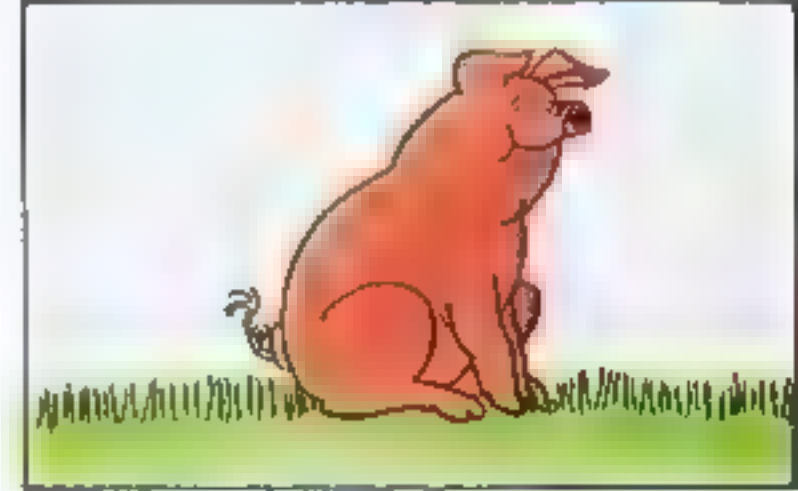
Learn to Read 1

Learn to Read 1 is designed for children who are just beginning to read. It is in four parts, each of which develops skills central to the reading process — letter recognition, sight vocabulary, early spelling and memory. The program is full of colour and fun and children will enjoy learning to read as they meet the animal characters — Ben the dog, Jip the cat and their friends.



Learn to Read 2

Learn to Read 2 extends the fundamental reading skills practised in the first program, as well as encouraging logical thinking. The child's vocabulary is gradually built up as new words such as "red," "green," "car," "ship" and "bus" are introduced. In addition, Learn to Read 2 features an attractive "reward" system enabling children to see their achievements grow



Learn to Read 3

Learn to Read 3 builds on the child's progress so far, so that he or she can gain the confidence to move on through the complex reading process. Learn to Read 3 features four different activities, all of which are colourful and lively. Further vocabulary is introduced until the child is reading more than 30 words.



Learn to Read 4

Learn to Read 4 is the alphabet program in the Learn to Read series.

Using various stimulating activities the program gives the child plenty of practice in working with the alphabet — matching initial letters to words and pictures and spotting missing letters. These exercises build familiarity with simple sequences within the alphabet.



Learn to Read 5

Learn to Read 5 teaches positional language — often difficult to understand and remember — by using words and phrases such as "behind" and "in front of," "inside" and "outside"

The program first demonstrates the meanings of the words using clear pictures. It then tests the child's understanding of the words in two lively games.



Cargo

Set sail around the world. Choose your ports of call — New York, Tokyo, Belem, Helsinki — then the real challenge begins! You must reach your destinations safely, weathering storms on the way. But first, load your cargo — using all your knowledge and skill. Poor loading can mean capsizing and sinking. Your rank, if not your life, is always at stake!



Glider

Be a glider pilot! The glider models real-life gliding conditions so that you can learn through experience. As the pilot you must consider the time of day, the amount of cloud cover and the kind of terrain below you in order to find the up-currents of air that will keep you airborne. Try to fly as far as possible and, when you are high enough, navigate your way back to your home airfield and land safely — if you can.



Survival

Discover what it is like to be an animal in the wild! Be a lion stalking your prey, escaping human hunters. Or be a hawk, mouse or even a butterfly, searching for food and avoiding predators.

Survival models the natural world and brings to life hazards that different creatures must face in their struggle to stay alive.



Magnets

With an army of small magnets you set out to conquer the powerful supermagnets of your opponent. You have one weapon — your forces of magnetic attraction and repulsion.

The strategy is simple: attract smaller magnets to build strength to repel the supermagnet. When cornered, just turn your poles on your enemy and see what happens

ZX INTERFACE 2

THE NEW ROM CARTRIDGE AND JOYSTICK INTERFACE

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Loads programs instantly
Takes two joysticks
Just plug-in and play

The ZX Interface 2 is the latest new peripheral for the ZX Spectrum system. It enables you to use new ZX ROM cartridge software - plug-in programs that load instantly. There are ten terrific games already available on cartridge. ZX Interface 2 also allows you to use

one or two standard joysticks without the need for separate special interfaces.

To use new ZX ROM Cartridge programs, just connect Interface 2 to the rear of your Spectrum or Interface 1 and plug in the cartridge of your choice. Switch on and the program is then loaded, ready to run!

You can use any joystick that has a 9-way D plug. Use one or two of them for extra fun with suitable ZX ROM cartridge or Sinclair cassette programs - or with dozens of other Spectrum programs.

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The ZX Microdrive System is unique. This compact, expandable add-on system provides high-speed access to massive data storage. With just one Microdrive and a ZX Interface 1 you'll have at least 85K bytes of storage, the ability to LOAD and SAVE in a matter of seconds, the beginnings of a local area network of up to 64 Spectrums and a built-in RS232 interface. The cost? Less than £80.

How to get ZX Microdrive and ZX Interface 1

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If you didn't buy your Spectrum by mail order, send us the form at the bottom of this page and we'll add your name to the mailing list.

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Complete the appropriate sections on the order form below. Note that there is no postage or packing to pay on software purchases. Orders may be sent FREEPOST (no stamp needed). Credit card holders may order by phone, calling 01-200 0200, 24 hours a day. Please allow 28 days for delivery.

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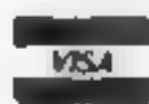
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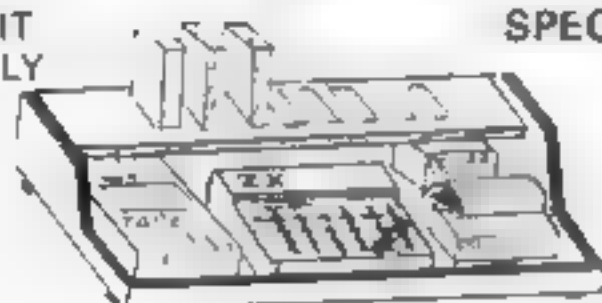
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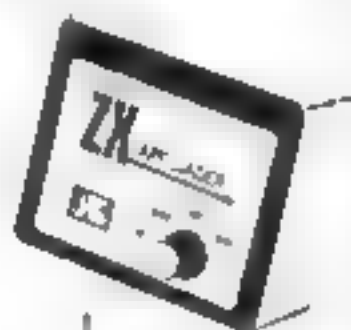
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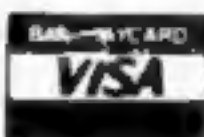
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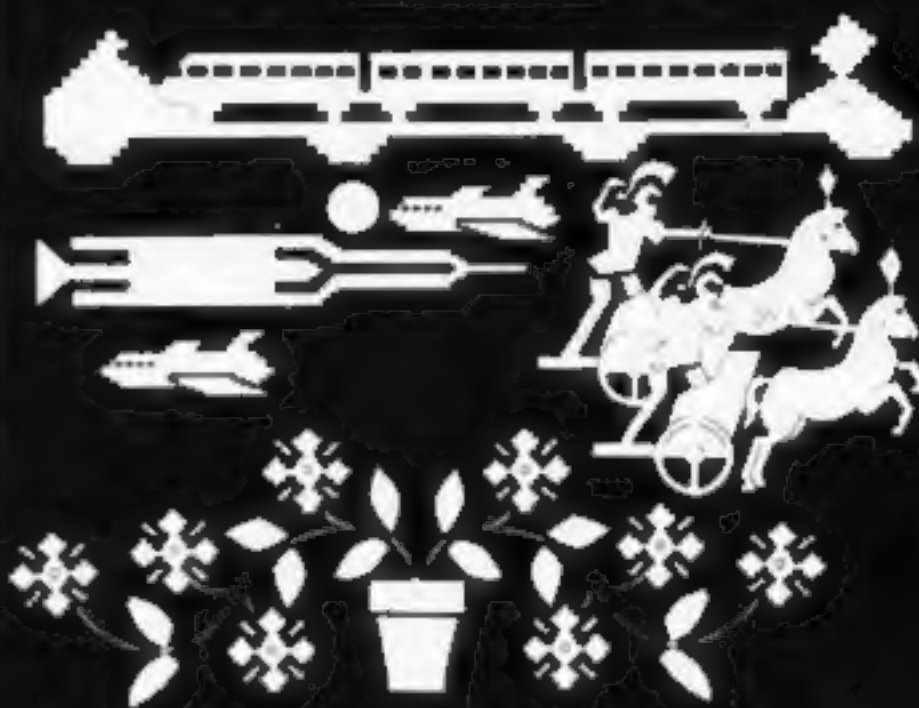
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